

Majors, Orville

1995

4/28/95

Partly cloudy

Crime & Criminals (wv)

suspended

Nurse's license

Ts APR 28 1995

State board says
Majors presents
'immediate danger'

By Deb Gruver

Tribune-Star

INDIANAPOLIS — Orville Lynn Majors of Linton was placed on emergency suspension by the Indiana State Board of Nursing because he represents a "clear and immediate danger to public health and safety," the board determined Thursday after a hearing.

Majors, a licensed practical nurse, was suspended with pay March 9 from Vermillion County Hospital in Clinton amid an investigation about increased deaths in the hospital's intensive care unit from May 1993 to March of this year.

The nursing board also ordered that Majors undergo a psychiatric evaluation. Majors will be able to submit three names of psychiatrists to the board, which ultimately will make the decision as to who will assess his mental state.

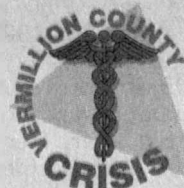
Majors' attorney, I. Marshall Pinkus of Indianapolis, said he will request an exped-

ed hearing to present Majors' side. The two were not present at Thursday's hearing.

During the hearing, Paula Holdaway, whose mother died in the ICU, testified she saw Majors give her mother an injection. Her mother's lips turned blue and "she just gently slipped away," Holdaway said.

Under questioning from Deputy Attorney General Connie Dinn, nurses at the hospital testified they had become suspicious of Majors as deaths in the ICU began to increase dramatically.

Sharon Calvert, an ICU nurse for six years, told of at least two instances when she



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Community Affairs File

left a patient in seemingly stable condition under Majors' care, only to quickly be called back because something had happened to her patient. In both instances, the patient died, she said.

Calvert, who said she almost was afraid to go to lunch for fear of problems with patients, said nurses at the hospital had begun to wonder "if he was doing stuff to patients" because of the large number of deaths.

When she went to hospital supervisors with concerns, Calvert said she was told, "Look at your patients; they're very ill."

Another nurse, **Kathleen Warren**, said she saw Majors standing over a patient with a syringe that isn't typically used by nurses in the intensive care unit. Warren said the patient, who did not have problems just 10 minutes earlier, later died. Warren also said that she had discussed euthanasia with Majors and that he had said he supported it.

Calvert and Warren both testified they knew of no autopsies performed on any of the patients who died while Majors was on duty.

According to documents reviewed during the hearing, another nurse, **Maureen Socha**, reported one of the patients had "coded" on the elevator on the way from the emergency room to the intensive care unit. "Code Blue" is a term meaning that a patient requires immediate resuscitation.

Socha said Majors was the only person present on the elevator with the patient.

Majors earlier this week stressed his innocence and said he cared about his patients. He also said he was under the supervision of a registered nurse "98 percent of the time."

Vermillion County Hospital administrator John F. Ling Jr. said Thursday night that on advice of counsel he had no further comment on the matter.

Nurses' testimony

7

The comments of 12 nurses who work at Vermillion County Hospital were included as evidence at the Indiana State Board of Nursing hearing at which nurse Orville Lynn Majors was placed on emergency suspension for 90 days.

The name of the licensed practical nurse discussed during testimony is not used in the documents, but the state board identified the LPN as Majors at the conclusion of the hearing Thursday.

None of the nurses reached were willing to comment about the case. They said all questions from the media had to be directed to the hospital's administrator. Administrator John F. Ling Jr. has refused to answer questions from the media.

Here is a summary of what the nurses who were interviewed by state officials said about the number of deaths in the intensive care unit:

■ **Marty Brown** — Noticed an increase in deaths in the fall of 1994; said he was not told not to talk about it by the administrator.

■ **Debbie Sollars** — Noticed increase in deaths in 1994, went to director of nursing and said she was told "they are all reviewed and all appropriate and there is nothing wrong." Sollars said she noticed same person present at codes/deaths.

■ **Kathleen Warren** — Saw LPN holding a disposable syringe by the bedside of a patient.

■ **Dawn Stirek** — Told director of nursing that "I think we have a problem." Stirek said pattern of increased deaths followed LPN change of schedule. She noted that the same person was present at the deaths.

■ **Marilyn Starkey** — Recalled a specific incident in which after she and another nurse walked out of the ICU leaving a patient with the LPN, a "code blue" was called for the patient. The patient had appeared "to be stable." Starkey said.

■ **Debbie Tague** — Did not notice increased number of codes or deaths on her shifts. Tague said she did not "participate in gossip or pay much attention to what is going on."

■ **Bill Balla** — Worked a shift with LPN when a "code" was called by the LPN. Balla said he did not notice any deterioration in the patient prior to the "code" being called. Balla verified that the drugs versed and valium had been locked up for "about five weeks."

■ **Maureen Socha** — Stated that "one patient 'coded' on the elevator on the way from emergency room to [the ICU]. LPN was only one present on the elevator with this patient."

■ **Nadine Shonk** — Noticed an increase in deaths in fall of 1994. Shonk was in the ICU a day after a "code" had occurred. She walked out of the unit with another registered nurse. When they left the unit, LPN was with another patient. Within one to two minutes, a "code" was called for the patient the LPN was with.

■ **Andy Harris** — Noticed an increase in deaths but feels "patients are a lot sicker now." Harris said he had not been told not to talk about situation.

■ **Jane Garrison** — Noticed an increase in deaths with the same person present. Garrison said she had heard a rumor that employees were not to talk about situation.

■ **Cindy Nicheson** — Verified that a common nurse was present at deaths/codes. Nicheson said she had not been told not to talk about situation.

The emergency suspension imposed by the nursing board is for 90 days; a hearing at which Majors may present his side will be conducted at the end of that time period. However, Majors may request an expedited hearing before the end of the 90-day

period. He may not perform duties as a nurse during that time.

Pinkus was angered that they were not given the opportunity to present Majors' side. "We did not get invited to the party," Pinkus said during a telephone

interview after the hearing.

It's "very frustrating" that the board "can hold what amounts to a secret hearing as far as we're concerned," Pinkus said.

Pinkus hopes to be able to question those who spoke Thursday at the next hearing.

He described his client as "upset ... He's trying to keep optimistic."

Pinkus said he doesn't understand why the investigation has focused only on Majors. "I'm absolutely convinced that he hasn't killed anyone," he said.

After the 90-day period, the Attorney General's Office can file a formal complaint against Majors. Possible disciplinary measures range from no punishment at all to revocation of his nursing license. The Attorney General's Office is responsible for investigating complaints and taking action against licensed health professionals, spokesman Rich Schneider explained.

Asked if he had ever seen a situation like this in Indiana, nursing board member George T. Patton Jr. said, "No, I haven't."

Patton refused after the meeting to discuss why he voted in favor of suspending Majors. He only said that evidence had convinced the board that Majors was a danger to the public.

At the end of the hearing, when Patton was calling for the votes of the members — some of whom were listening to the hearing via conference call — he asked, "What is the name of the practitioner?"

After being told "Orville Lynn Majors," Patton then loudly repeated Majors' name so the board members listening on the telephone could hear. It was the first time Majors' name had been used officially as the nurse who had been present at the majority of the ICU deaths.

Tribune-Star reporter Sue Loughlin and The Associated Press contributed to this report.

V. Majors, Orville

1995
7/2/95

death toll Dissecting the

Ts JUL 02 1995



Suspended:
Orville Lynn
Majors says
he's innocent.

Majors' attorney says
mortality rate similar
to before suspension

By Deborah D. Heldman
Tribune-Star

Has the death rate of patients at Vermillion County Hospital returned to normal since Orville Lynn Majors, a licensed practical nurse, was suspended in March?

Hospital officials contend it has. They say the intensive-care unit death rate — which had quadrupled during Major's employment from May of 1993 until his suspension by Administrator John Ling Jr. — has now returned to normal.

Major's license has been suspended by the state, pending the outcome of a September hearing.

Figures obtained from the hospital show two people died in the intensive-care unit in January, 10 in February and three in March. In April and May, after Major's suspen-

sion, there were three deaths in the unit.

However, Major's attorney, I. Marshall Pinkus of Indianapolis, maintains the overall

death rate at the hospital has changed very little since his client was suspended. He maintains that the numbers instead reflect a shifting of patients from Vermillion County Hospital to other facilities



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and a decrease in admissions to the intensive-care unit.

So who is right? Many observers say it may be too soon to tell, but research conducted by the Tribune-Star involving statistics gathered from published obituaries seems to support the contention that there has been an increase in patient deaths outside the hospital in recent weeks.

The research also shows little change in the overall number ■

See **Deaths**, Page A4

patient deaths at the hospital from 1992 to 1994. Majors was not employed at the hospital in 1992.

Specifically, the study indicates more residents of Parke and Vermillion counties died in other hospitals, at home or in nursing homes during the last 90 days — after Major's suspension — than during the same period in 1994. There were 48 people who died during the period in 1994, compared to 61 people this year.

Pinkus, who has also been keeping track of the deaths of Vermillion and Parke county residents through published obituaries, contends the numbers confirm his client is innocent. His research shows Vermillion County Hospital had 16 deaths that occurred in January and February and 19 deaths in March and April, after Majors was suspended.

"I have been trying to tell people this," Pinkus said. "They transferred people out of the hospital after Majors left. After he left, the same age bracket [of people who died] and where they had been coming from has not decreased."

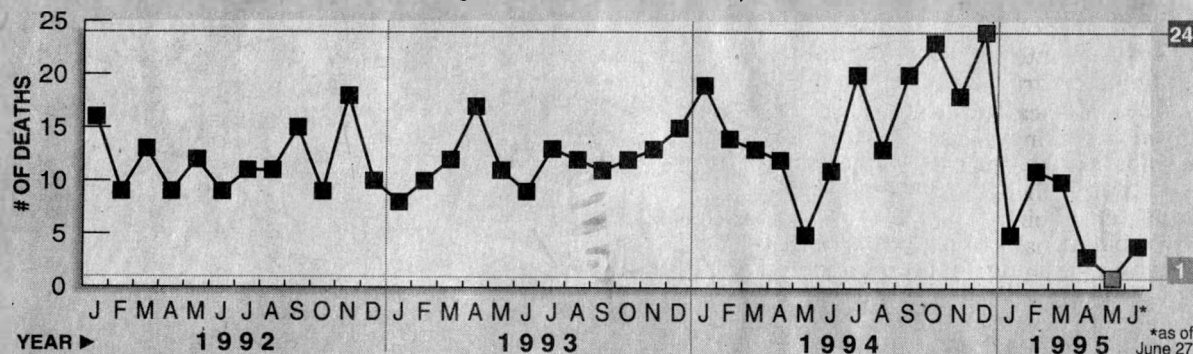
The attorney's research and that of the Tribune-Star indicate seven of the 12 patients who died in March at Vermillion County Hospital passed away after the nurse's suspension that month. The death rate in March, at 12, is typical of the average patient mortality rate for that month, based on statistics from 1992-1994 from the Indiana State Department of Health.

Research conducted by the Tribune-Star also shows 15 patients died in the hospital between April 1 and June 27, after Major's suspension.

Pattern of deaths

Figures for 1992-1994 from Indiana State Health Department and figures for 1995 compiled through Tribune-Star research of published obituaries in the Tribune-Star and other area newspapers, illustrate the trend of deaths at the Vermillion County Hospital on a month-by-month basis.

December of 1994 yielded the highest number of deaths, 24, at the hospital over the past three years; while May of this year had the lowest figure at two for the same period of time.



Tribune-Star/Doug McSchooler

According to Indiana State Health Department figures, 28 patients died at the hospital during the same period last year.

Statistics on patient deaths provided by the hospital on Friday show 10 patients died in March, three in April and one in May. That compares to five patient deaths in January and 11 in February.

However, hospital spokeswoman Sue O'Leary said the numbers represent deaths reportable to the Indiana State Department of Health and the Indiana Hospital Association. The figures released by the hospital exclude people who died at the hospital, but had not been admitted at the time of death, such as those who died while being treated in the emergency room, or stillborn deaths.

There are still some death figures from last year that remain to be explained.

The numbers of patient

deaths in October and December doubled last year at the hospital, compared to 1992 and 1993 mortality figures from the state Board of Health. What will happen in those two months this year remains to be seen.

Why more patients died during those two months, and what factors might have caused the death rate in the ICU to quadruple last year still puzzle police. The probe into the circumstances of 150 suspicious deaths at the hospital remains the focus of their investigation.

While no one has definitive answers to what happened last year at the hospital, there have been plenty of theories.

Pinkus suggested this week the hospital "made more money" from Medicare in 1994 by "putting more people in [the intensive-care unit]."

Jeff Stultz, assistant administrator of the hospital, argued the hospital "would receive the same

revenue" from Medicare no matter if the patient were treated in intensive care or in another unit.

Reimbursements for Medicare are based on the patient's diagnosis, age and gender, treatment and discharge status under rule changes implemented in 1983 by the federal program. Stultz said Medicare typically reimburses about half of what it costs hospitals to treat patients.

"It costs us more to put patients in ICU," Stultz said. "Transferring them just to make money doesn't make sense."

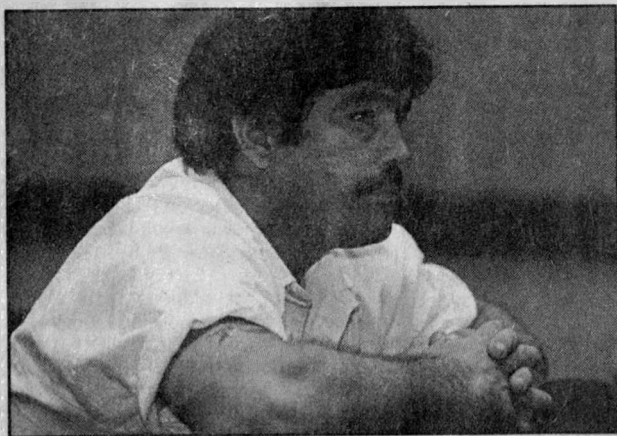
A hospital nurse, who declined to be identified, confirmed this week, however, that the number of patients treated in Vermillion County's intensive-care unit has dropped over the past three weeks. But the employee said the drop was not intentional.

"People are still coming here. Those who are really sick say, 'Don't put me in ICU,' " the worker said.

✓ Majors, Orville J

1995
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Majors Witnesses point to



AP

His story: Russell Firestone Jr. listens after he testified Tuesday in Indianapolis.

SEP 20 1995
Suspended nurse did nothing wrong, two colleagues attest

By Patricia Pastore

Tribune-Star

INDIANAPOLIS — Four people told the State Board of Nursing Tuesday they saw Orville Lynn Majors administer intravenous medicine to their mother or father shortly before they died in Vermillion County Hospital.

But Marilyn Alexander, who worked as a supervising nurse in the intensive care unit with Majors, tes-

① Crime & Criminals (wv)
tified she questioned the increased deaths in that department in August 1993, before Majors came under scrutiny, and reported the problem to her immediate supervisors.

She says the death rate nearly quadrupled because more patients with multiple serious medical problems were placed in ICU.

Nursing board members took notes, asked questions and listened carefully to every witness in their search for the truth on the second day of the three-day hearing. They must decide after hearing all the evidence whether Majors' nursing license should remain suspended.

Majors, a licensed practical nurse, was suspended by the hospital in



March after hospital officials determined he was on duty during 130 of 147 suspicious deaths in the ICU between May 1993 and March 1995.

After the hospital suspended Majors, the state nursing board in April suspended his nursing license, calling him a clear and immediate danger to the public. The state recently implicated him in 26 deaths in a civil complaint.

Majors maintains he did nothing wrong, and no criminal charges have been filed.

Among those who testified Tues-

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day:

● Russell Firestone Jr. of Clinton, who said he saw Majors plunge a syringe in his father's chest Dec. 21, 1994. He said minutes later his father, Russell Sr., stopped gasping for breath and died.

The body of Firestone's father was exhumed Monday from Shirley Cemetery in Vermillion County and was taken to Evansville for an autopsy. The body will be reinterred today.

Later, registered nurse Connie Hoopingarder testified that she was in the room while Majors was treating the elder Firestone the day he

died. She said she did not see Majors insert a needle into the patient's chest.

Hoopingarder said Majors did give him a drug, but that it was given through intravenous tubes. But when the state cross-examined her, she admitted that she had been looking at Firestone's son and did not actually see the injection.

Hoopingarder later said that if Majors did stab the patient in the chest, she would have noticed.

● Paula Holdaway of West Terre Haute, who was holding her mother's hand in the intensive care unit when she felt something brush her arm, she said.

"I looked down and saw him take a syringe" out of a tube inserted in her mother's vein on April 23, 1994, she said. Her mother, Dorethea Hixon, died about two and one-half hours later, according to information on her death certificate.

● Raelene Howard, who said she watched her father, Ray Simpson of Newport, eat breakfast in the hospital on March 27,

1994. She said later Majors came into the room with a syringe in his hand and "injected something in his IV," she said.

"After that all the strength went out of his hands ... from his fingertips on, a gold color kept creeping up his arms. He couldn't talk. He couldn't move ... the machine started going off and he died."

● Charles J. Corado, who said he never left the hospital when his father was admitted March 22, 1994. His father, Charles Corado, had several medical problems but he believed he was getting better, he said. Majors was his father's caregiver on March 24, he said.

"I heard something like a pop bottle popping. I looked around and saw Majors screwing together a needle. He held it up and flipped it a couple of times with his fingers and then put the needle in dad's IV bag."

Majors listened intently as all four testified. The state rested when Corado left the witness stand.

Alexander claims the 147 people who died in the intensive

care unit from May 1993 to March 1995 all died of natural causes. She was the registered nurse in charge of the intensive care unit on many weekends when Majors was assigned to that department, she said.

In the fall of 1993 hospital staff from the medical/surgical department started teasing her and Majors about the number of deaths that occurred in ICU, she said.

"Hospital authorities knew about the increasing deaths in August of 1993. That's when I first became aware of it and I reported it to my supervisors. Everybody teased us, from the physicians on down. They said we were having a bad run of luck. They said we were jinxed."

The patients who died in ICU were very sick when they were admitted to that department, Alexander said. She said most were elderly with multiple system failures. Many didn't want life support used or anything done to extend their life, she said, noting the patients and the families make those decisions.

Majors' absence from the hos-

pital staff had nothing to do with the decrease in the ICU death rate, Alexander told the nursing board. News that spread across the nation about suspicious deaths at the hospital kept people away from the ICU unit, she said.

"People are still dying. Read the obituaries. They just aren't dying in the hospital. When all this began to break in the newspapers they were transferring them out of there quite a bit. They didn't want to be in there."

Alexander said she has never seen anyone at the hospital do anything that would cause the death of a patient.

The hearing continues at 9 a.m. today. At the conclusion of testimony the nursing board will begin deliberations concerning whether Majors' nursing license will continue to be temporarily suspended.

A final hearing will be scheduled 90 days after that decision is made.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

Police set to exhume two more bodies

2
Ts OCT 31/1995

Autopsies part
of continuing
hospital probe

By Patricia Pastore

Tribune-Star

CLINTON — Two bodies will be exhumed Wednesday as police continue their probe into 147 suspicious deaths at Vermillion County Hospital.

The first body will be exhumed at 7 a.m. at Rosedale Cemetery in Parke County. The second is scheduled to be dug up at noon at Walnut Grove Cemetery in Clinton, Indiana State Police 1st Sgt. Mark Hartman said Monday.

"We aren't releasing the names of any bodies selected for



exhumation," Hartman said.

Sources, however, told the Tribune-Star which bodies will be exhumed.

The body of Mary Ann Alderson, 69, of Rosedale will be exhumed from Rosedale Cemetery, said sources in Rosedale close to the investigation.

Alderson died at Vermillion County Hospital Nov. 7, 1994, and was buried Nov. 11, 1994. Her funeral services were at Cottrell Funeral Home in Rosedale.

Sources said the body of Derek Henshaw Maxwell Sr., 64, of Universal will be exhumed

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from Walnut Grove Cemetery.

Maxwell died at the hospital Nov. 18, 1994, and was buried on Nov. 21, 1994. His funeral services were at Karanovich Funeral Home in Clinton. Richard M. Giovanini, the Vermillion County Coroner, is employed at Karanovich as a funeral director.

At the request of Vermillion County Prosecutor Mark A. Greenwell, Giovanini and Parke County Coroner Michael T. Berger issued disinterment orders in their respective counties for the exhumations.

Hartman said both bodies will be transported to the Vanderburgh County Coroner's Office in Evansville, where autopsies will be performed by two forensic pathologists and ISP technicians.

He said police hope to gain more information about how each person died.

ISP have the preliminary autopsy report on Russell Firestone's body, which was exhumed Sept. 18 and autopsied the next day.

"A final report could be weeks away," Hartman said.

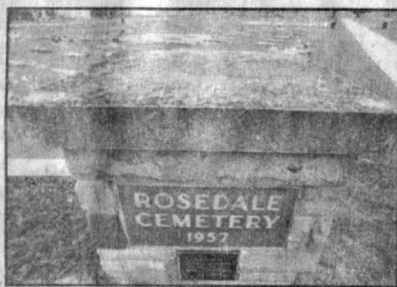
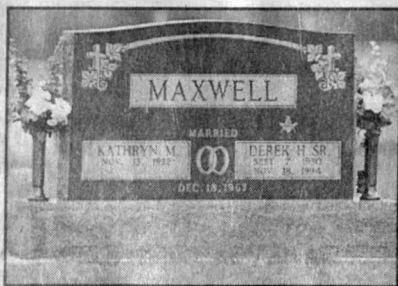
A police investigation into the sharp increase in deaths in the hospital's intensive care unit between May 1993 and March 1995 was started in early March at the request of hospital officials.

Prompting the investigation was a nurse's report indicating that Orville Lynn Majors, a licensed practical nurse, was present at 130 of 147 deaths in the intensive care unit.

Majors, of Linton, was suspended by the hospital March 9, and his nursing license was suspended by the State Nursing Board in April.

The board said Majors was a "clear and immediate danger to the public." Majors claims he has done nothing wrong and is being made a "scapegoat" in a "witch hunt."

On Aug. 27, the state attorney general's office filed a civil com-



Tribune-Star/Jim Avelis

Settled for now: The grave of Derek Henshaw Maxwell Sr. in Walnut Grove Cemetery in Clinton and Mary Ann Alderson's in Rosedale Cemetery will be busy places Wednesday morning.

plaint against Majors, alleging that he contributed to the deaths of 26 patients at the hospital by improperly giving them intravenous medication.

Last month, the nursing board voted 5-2 to continue the suspension of Majors' license until a final decision is made at a hearing before the board Dec. 18 through 20 in Indianapolis.

In April, after a State Board of Health investigation, the hospital was cited for eight licensure violations and fined \$80,000. The citations and fine are being appealed.

At this time, police still have no suspects in the deaths.

"We still cannot conclusively say today there was a crime committed that resulted in these deaths," Hartman said.

1995

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While the company's record has been "excellent" and it continues to upgrade operations, "there is always a remote possibility of a chlorine release," the letter states.

Pitkin wrote that by moving the school closer to Ulrich and virtually across the street, "it drastically lowers the response time needed to forewarn the school of an emergency. Has the time it takes to evacuate the school and leave the area been considered?"

Depending on the amount of chlorine released and the atmospheric conditions at the time, chlorine concentrations could become quite heavy in the proposed area.

Chlorine has a very low odor threshold. A person can smell it at well below 1 part per million (i.e. bleach). When it reaches 5 parts per million, a person would need to leave the area because the gas becomes "very irritating."

Higher concentrations of chlorine have more severe health effects, Pitkin's letter states.

The closer people are to the source of the leak, the faster the plume would reach them and the higher the concentrations would be, Pitkin said.

If school officials persist with their decision, "we will do our very best to be good neighbors" and work with the school district to develop contingency plans for

use in the event of an emergency, Pitkin wrote.

Honkamp suggested the new school would be too close to Hydrite's bulk chemical storage area for sulfur dioxide and anhydrous ammonia, and the site "offers very little opportunity to avoid the risks associated with a significant chemical release, only allowing for immediate evacuation."

Both the sulfur dioxide and anhydrous ammonia are stored under pressure in bulk containers at Hydrite.

"While we have never experienced any significant losses from these storage vessels, the potential for a complete loss does exist," Honkamp's letter states.

Both sulfur dioxide and anhydrous ammonia are irritating to the respiratory tract and can be debilitating when present at relatively low concentrations.

"Because of this characteristic, the emergency evacuation requirements are stringent and must be taken very seriously," he writes.

Any release of sulfur dioxide from bulk storage would require the immediate evacuation of the area within 1,500 feet in all directions regardless of wind direction. Additional evacuation requirements would then apply, depending on atmospheric conditions and time of day, Honkamp wrote.

Superintendent

Charles

Sarah Scott Middle School



Clark responded to both letters, thanking the officials for the opportunity to tour the facilities and for their willingness to work with the school district.

Other sites for a new Sarah Scott have been proposed in the neighborhood but would have involved the purchase of several homes. The school board has said it does not want to displace people from their homes.

The school district "certainly would cooperate with the chemical companies" to develop contin-

gency plans in the event an emergency occurs, Kirby said.

Kirby pointed out that other schools located next to industries or railroad tracks can be at risk for chemical accidents or other emergencies.

He said Ulrich has a lot of equipment and sensing apparatus to ensure safety in handling these chemicals. He suggested that a train carrying hazardous chemicals down a track posed a greater risk.

Majors, Orville

1995
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upheld

Majors' suspension

TS DEC 21 1995

Crime & Criminals (M)



Defeated:
Board rules
against Orville
Lynn Majors.

Board doesn't
take toughest
action possible

By Patricia Pastore

Tribune-Star

INDIANAPOLIS — After deliberating for more than three hours, the Indiana Board of Nursing voted 5-2 to indefinitely suspend Orville

Lynn Majors' nursing license.

The ruling came with the stipulation that Majors, currently suspended as a licensed practical nurse from Vermillion County Hospital, may not petition the board to lift the suspension for five years.

He will have to appear at another hearing if he petitions the board for reinstatement on Dec. 20, 2001.

I. Marshall Pinkus, Majors' attorney, plans to appeal the decision.

"We knew when we went into this they weren't going to give Lynn his license back," he said. "I was not

surprised by the decision."

The board did not take the strongest action possible. Members could have revoked Majors'

license, which would have meant he could not have reapplied for seven years. Indefinite suspension does not require he reapply.

Board members Hilda Glass, a licensed practical nurse, and Marsha King, a registered nurse, both



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voted against the suspension. King and Glass suggested the board put Majors on probation with specific stipulations, such as that he be allowed to work only in the presence of a registered nurse.

Glass and King also voted against continuing the temporary suspension of Majors' license during a preliminary hearing in September.

But hearing officer George Patton Jr., consumer advocate on the board, said he could never agree with probation for Majors.

Registered nurse Nancy McKee

of Terre Haute, another board member, first spoke of revoking his license and then was swayed to vote for the indefinite suspension by discussions with other board members.

During deliberations, a majority of the board agreed Majors practiced beyond the scope of his license. At least four or more board members decided Majors practiced medicine without a license by administering medication without a doctor's

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Majors

Continued from Page A1

order and failed to document medicine given to a patient's relative.

They also claimed Majors acted without the supervision of a registered nurse, used unwise judgment in providing nursing care, violated hospital policies and procedures by doing initial patient evaluations and omitted documentation on patient medical charts.

Majors' license was temporarily suspended by the board April 27 after it was determined he was present at 130 of 147 deaths in the hospital's intensive care unit during a 22-month period ending in March.

Majors maintains his innocence. No one has been arrested in the ongoing police investigation into the deaths.

In this latest hearing, the board gave little weight to testimony given earlier by Brenda Folk, a registered nurse and former hospital unit supervisor. She told the board Majors "was always supervised by a registered nurse."

Folk she said her job included daily staffing. "I was responsible for making sure there were enough registered nurses in the intensive care unit," she noted.

The board also considered testimony given at the hearing in September by Judith Howard, hospital director of nursing service, and Sharon Calvert, a registered nurse on staff at the hos-

Timeline

■ March 9 — Vermillion County Hospital suspends licensed practical nurse Orville Lynn Majors.

■ April 21 — Sources say Majors is the focus of the Vermillion County Hospital investigation.

■ April 27 — The Indiana State Board of Nursing temporarily suspends Majors' license, saying he represents a "clear and immediate danger to public health and safety."

■ May 19 — The state board sets a June 19-21 preliminary hearing for Majors.

■ June 8 — The state board postpones the June 19-

21 hearing.

■ Sept. 18-20 — In a preliminary hearing, the state board votes 5-2 to continue its suspension of Majors' license for 90 days.

■ October — The state board sets Dec. 18-20 for Majors' final hearing.

■ Dec. 18 — A federal judge declines to grant an injunction Majors' attorneys had sought to stop the final nursing board hearing. The hearing begins later in the day.

■ Dec. 20 — A 5-2 majority of the state board voted to suspend Majors' nursing license for five years.

pital.

Both said Majors was on four occasions the only nurse in the intensive care unit.

During final arguments, Deputy Attorney General Dale Webster asked the board to revoke Majors' license. He said among the more serious charges the state proved are those "that deal with judgments [concerning patient care] that should be made by a physician.

"Giving medicine without a doctor's order is not a judgment an LPN should make," he added.

However, Pinkus argued that

Majors only did what hospital administrators permitted him to do. He said his client's evaluations were excellent. Majors had a right to rely on those evaluations, he said.

"He worked for Vermillion County Hospital and they set the rules and guidelines ... they told him what to do and when ... they set the parameters known to him," Pinkus said.

"There was not one thing in his evaluation that said he was doing anything outside the scope of what he was supposed to be doing."



Tribune-Star/Bob Poynter

Restrained: Victim's mother (center) is consoled by another daughter and Marian Priest.

Community Affairs File

CRIME + CRIMS - WV

City man jailed for attempt on southside woman's life

T: FEB 20 1985

By Patrick J. Barnes
Tribune-Star Staff Reporter

A 25-year-old Terre Haute man is in police custody for attempting to kill a local woman by allegedly stabbing her twice at her southside residence Tuesday afternoon.

Police identified the victim as Connie Fields, 26, 1421 S. Fourth St.

Fields underwent emergency surgery Tuesday in Union Hospital for stab wounds to the chest and abdomen. She was listed in stable

condition in maximum care Tuesday evening.

Joseph McKee, 25, no address available, was arrested by police on a preliminary charge of attempted murder.

Police said McKee was arrested about 10 minutes after the stabbing in an alley near Third and Washington streets. He offered no resistance, police said.

Detective Lt. Jerry Templeton said investigators have not yet determined a motive for the stabbing.

A friend of the victim, Chris Craft, told police he was sitting in

an automobile outside the Fields residence when he heard screams from inside the dwelling.

Craft said he kicked in the front door at the Fields residence in an effort to help the victim.

After gaining entry to the dwelling, Craft said McKee fled through the back door.

Craft told police he grabbed a shovel and began chasing McKee down the alley, striking McKee twice in the back with the shovel.

The victim ran to a nearby house, where the neighbor telephoned police.

Community Affairs File

REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE

Vigo County Public Library

McKee, Joseph

REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE

Community Affairs File

McKee, Joseph W.

T s NOV 2 1985
Slasher gets 25-year jail term

Crime & Criminals (wall) (W) Community Affairs File
It's a good thing Joseph W. McKee got a long sentence, because he might not last long on the streets, Judge Robert H. Brown said Friday.

McKee, 26, of 1911 S. Eighth St. was sentenced Friday for slashing a Terre Haute woman with a butcher knife Feb. 19.

McKee's victim, Connie Fields, 26, was hospitalized four months after the attack that took place in her home.

McKee was to go on trial next month, but instead pleaded guilty but mentally ill and agreed to accept a 25-year sentence for the crime.

In Vigo Circuit Court on Friday, Brown told the defendant that, if he were not going to be imprisoned for a long time, someone might

"repay the favor" and stab him.

Brown said that, if someone had stabbed his wife as Fields was stabbed, he just might go looking for whomever did it.

"I don't know whether I could resist the temptation or not," Brown said.

Under the plea agreement submitted Oct. 1 and approved Friday, McKee is to undergo a mental evaluation.

James R. Walker, chief deputy Vigo County prosecutor, said treatment for mental illness will not lessen McKee's imprisonment for the crime.

If McKee abides by Department of Correction rules, he will be eligible for release after serving half his sentence.



Tribune-Star/Bob Poynter

Take that: Martin just misses camera's lens with karate kick as he's led to court.

Accused in Donie's death not competent, judge says

Community Affairs File

T: NOV 22 1985

By John Halladay
Tribune-Star Staff Reporter

A Terre Haute man accused of the May 21 bathtub electrocution slaying of 69-year-old Molly Pearl Donie was ordered Thursday to undergo a mental evaluation.

Judge Michael H. Eldred ruled that Brian L. Martin is not now mentally able to help his defense attorney.

Martin, 23, of 706 S. 17th St. was charged July 12 with Donie's murder and the burglary of her home at 1003 S. 17th St.

Eldred ordered competency examinations July 23 for Martin at the request of Larry J. Wagner, Martin's defense attorney.

Clinical psychologist Michael J. Murphy testified Thursday that Martin would stare into space, make facial grimaces and "seems to have many self-destructive tenden-

cies."

Psychiatrist Mary Ann Johnson said Martin was not making facial grimaces when she first saw him briefly but began to do so after she introduced herself.

The specialists also said Martin was depressed, became angry when talking about police and also told the specialists he might "do something" such as try to escape and be shot before trial.

Martin also supposedly said alibi witnesses might come forward for him but that he would say they were lying.

An affidavit for Martin's arrest said that Terre Haute Police Detective Sgt. Joe Newport heard Martin tell his mother on June 17, "I'm a grown man, something's wrong with me, I need help. I'm sick, I've got to pay for what I did. F. Lee Bailey couldn't get me out of this murder."

The affidavit also says Martin told Newport, "If they can

guarantee me that I'll spend the rest of my life in the hospital, a place where I can get treatment, not a place where I'll be drugged up like a zombie, I'll clear this murder."

Eldred ordered Martin transported to the state Department of Mental Health "as soon as a bed is available" for further examination and treatment. He ordered a report prepared in 30 days on Martin's mental condition and also told the Department of Mental Health to inform him immediately if Martin becomes well enough to stand trial.

The murder and burglary charges against Martin say he burglarized Donie's home and forced her into a bathtub "containing water and electrical appliances," electrocuting her.

If found guilty of the two felonies, Martin could be sentenced to up to 110 years in prison.

Martin, Brian L

Martin, Brian L.

Martin guilty in Donie death

Crime + Criminals (WO)

By John Halladay
Tribune-Star Staff Reporter

Brian L. Martin, 24, of 706 S. 17th St. pleaded guilty Wednesday to murder and burglary in connection with the May 21, 1985, electrocution slaying of Molly Pearl Donie, 69.

As part of a plea agreement, Martin will be sentenced Aug. 26 by Judge Michael H. Eldred to 40 years in prison. He could have been sentenced up to 160 years for the Donie murder and burglary, separate burglary and being a habitual offender if the cases had gone to trial and he was convicted.

Vigo County Prosecutor Eric M. Abel said Martin bound and gagged the elderly woman in her home at 1003 S. 17th St. and forced her into a bathtub in which a radio and hair dryer were also placed, electrocuting her.

Martin also pleaded guilty to the June 16, 1985, burglary of a home in the 700 block of South 20th Street. Martin confessed to the June 16 burglary after being apprehended, Abel said.

The case against Martin for Donie's murder and the burglary of her home was circumstantial, the prosecutor said — although Martin did say, "I'll confess to this murder if you let me talk to my mother first" and "F. Lee Bailey couldn't get me out of this murder," according to a police affidavit.

Martin's attorney, Larry J. Wagner, said Martin was to go on trial next week, and the plea agreement Wednesday was "a last-minute deal."

The state's murder case against Martin was weak — but even had the defense won that case, Martin still would have faced up to 50 years for the other burglary and being a habitual offender, Wagner



BRIAN L. MARTIN
Hears sentence Aug. 26

said.

The prosecutor said, "I am not happy with this plea agreement. However, the murder case against Mr. Martin was totally circumstantial. The police and prosecutor did not have the luxury of having any item of direct evidence against Mr. Martin. This plea agreement guarantees a murder conviction and guarantees a long term imprisonment for the defendant, [with] which even though I am not happy, I am satisfied."

Donie's survivors had been advised of the plea agreement and approved it, Abel said.

If Martin abides by Department of Correction rules, he will be eligible for release after serving half the sentence imposed.

Under the plea agreement, Martin will get 10 years for the June 16 burglary, plus 30 years for being a habitual offender. Those 40 years will run at the same time as 40 years for Donie's murder and at the same time as 20 years for the burglary of her home.

Martin, Brian L.

Martin to spend at least 20 years in jail for woman's murder

TS AUG 27 1985
Brian L. Martin, 24, of 706 S. 17th St. was sentenced Tuesday for murder, two counts of burglary and being a habitual offender.

Martin pleaded guilty July 16.

As part of a plea agreement, Martin was sentenced by Judge Michael H. Eldred to 40 years in prison.

If he had been tried and convicted, he could have been

sentenced to up to 160 years.

Martin pleaded guilty to the May 21, 1985, electrocution slaying of Molly Pearl Donie, 69, and the burglary of her home at 1003 S. 17th St.

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Crime & Criminals (WV)
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Vigo County Public Library

Community Affairs File

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Four persons abducted; suspect being returned

By G. PATRICK GRIMES
Tribune Staff Writer

The man accused of instigating a six-hour ordeal involving four local restaurant employees was expected to be returned to Indiana this evening to face court proceedings Tuesday.

Ronald L. May, 26, listed on police reports as residing on Route 2, Farmersburg, appeared in the Christian County District Court, Hopkinsville, Ky., for a preliminary extradition hearing at 9 a.m. today before Judge Alfred A. Naf.

He was advised of his rights and acknowledged his signature on a waiver of extradition, according to court reports.

At about noon today, Indiana State Police troopers left for Kentucky via aircraft. They had obtained warrants from a Greene County judge, and were expected to return May to Indiana this evening.

May is expected to be charged with two counts of attempted murder and two counts of confinement in Greene County, as well as four counts of confinement in Vigo County.

It was learned today that May apparently once threatened the life of former President Richard M. Nixon, a spokesman for Federal Judge James E. Noland told The TRIBUNE. May allegedly threatened Nixon in a letter which read, "I'm gonna blow your head off," the spokesman said.

May has reportedly served time at the Indiana Reformatory at Pendleton and at the Federal Correctional Institution in Milan, Mich.

May is expected to face a variety of charges stemming from an incident which occurred Sunday at the Pizza Inn restaurant, 315 Davis Ave.

Police say that as the four restaurant employees were cleaning the store at about 3:30 a.m., a man came to the door to ask for his wife's paycheck.

May's 22-year-old wife, Linda May, is reportedly a Pizza Inn waitress.

State Police reports indicate the workers, two men and two women, let the man in because they "knew him."

He surprised the four employees, however, first by displaying a small

handgun, and then by proclaiming he was going to rob the store and take everyone with him as hostages, police say.

The man reportedly stole \$2,000 in cash from the restaurant's safe and cash register.

Police say the man forced the two men into the trunk of his green 1970 Plymouth, and made the two women ride with him in the front seat of his car. He reportedly then fled south on U.S. 41.

Police identified the two male victims as Robert Duregger, 31, Pizza Inn restaurant assistant manager, and Bruce Galloway, 21, a former Indiana State University student from Logansport.

The two waitresses were identified as Patricia Wainscott, 22, and Linda Strole, 21, both of Terre Haute.

About 50 miles southeast of Terre Haute, near the Greene County community of Koleon, the man reportedly released Duregger, stabbing him and leaving him along the road near the community's cemetery.

Police say Duregger was able to stumble across the road toward a house to call authorities. He was

listed in serious but stable condition in Bloomington Hospital today, after emergency surgery Sunday.

Police report the man apparently stopped his car again near Elliston, also in Greene County, where he released Galloway after kicking and beating him.

Reportedly, the man then proceeded to the Drury Inn, a motel on the northern fringe of Evansville on U.S. 41. There, police say, he registered under an assumed name.

The man then reportedly forced the two women into a motel room, where he bound them with torn bedsheets. Police say the man raped one of the victims before fleeing.

The two women struggled free and reported the incident to the motel's front desk and contacted authorities.

The man then continued south on U.S. 41, where near Hopkinsville, Ky., the car was spotted by a state patrolman and two Christian County Sheriff's deputies, according to reports.

An arrest was then made.

May was being lodged in the Christian County Jail before being transported back to Terre Haute.

OCT 1 1980

Area residents help victims

By MARTIN JASICKI
Tribune Staff Writer

It was still dark outside Sunday morning when Mr. and Mrs. Paul Moffitt heard what appeared to be someone breaking into their rural home, just east of tiny Koleen in Greene County.

"We heard the kitchen window break, and unusual sounds from outside the house," Mrs. Moffitt said. "And then a man called out that he had just been kidnapped and injured.

"When we got to the window we saw no one, and when Paul called out, no one answered," Mrs. Moffitt continued.

She said she and her husband, who have six children, continued to fear a



CEMETERY NEAR KOLEEN
WHERE DUREGGER WAS LEFT

In order to find out more about the events that took place early Sunday morning in connection with the abduction of four persons from a local Pizza Inn, Tribune Staff Writers Martin Jasicki and G. Patrick Grimes talked to many of the persons involved. In addition, Staff Photographer Curt Willis provides photos of several of the key Greene County sites.

burglar was lurking outside their isolated home. Moffitt agreed to call the police, and ordered his wife to remain still.

However, that decision was not an easy one to make, she said. The Moffitt's telephone is located 150 yards away from their home, beyond a hill and pond, at their farm silo.

"We decided to take a chance," she said, noting that her husband succeeded in calling the Greene County sheriff. Moffitt returned to his home and remained inside with his family until authorities arrived.

Mrs. Moffitt noted that neither she nor her husband ever saw the man whose life they may have saved. Robert Duregger, a Terre Haute pizza restaurant assistant manager, apparently passed out beneath the kitchen window and remained there with a stab wound in his neck until rescued by a Greene County ambulance team.

"Thank God, our children all slept through the entire incident," Mrs. Moffitt said.

Duregger was stabbed and left near a tiny cemetery just northeast of the Moffitt's residence after he and three other employees of the Pizza Inn, 315 Davis Ave., were abducted.

Duregger told officials he saw a light burning in the Moffitt's home and made the 200-yard trek across a hilly field in the dark.

Arrested in connection with the incident was Ronald L. May of Shelburn.

"It's hard to believe," noted Billy

May, a cousin of the suspect, who lives in the area. "Ron (is)... a cool sort of person — not at all violent. I remembered he'd entertain us with his guitar at a reunion in Linton."

Following Duregger's escape at about 6 a.m. Sunday, the man involved in the abduction is believed to have driven to Elliston, another small Greene County community.

In the Elliston area, the man dragged another male passenger, Bruce Galloway, 21, from out of the car trunk and began beating him, police reports said.

But Galloway told authorities he elbowed his assailant in the stomach and was able to run away into a wooded area near the farm of David Hill, 32, Route 2, Elliston.

David Hill:
'I've never
seen
anybody as
shook up'



Hill told The TRIBUNE he heard a loud knock at his door at about 7:15 a.m.

"It wasn't a knock, knock, knock,"

Hill said, "but a RAM, RAM, RAM!" he said.

Hill added that when he came to the door, he "didn't know what to think" because before him was a young man who had lost his shoes, had his shirt torn and was rubbing his throat.

"He was really shook up," Hill said of Galloway, a 21-year-old Indiana State University student. "At first I thought it was someone whose car was stuck in the mud, but we didn't have any rain.

"I've never seen anybody as shook up," Hill added. "He asked me for help because (he said) someone was trying to kill him...."

Hill said he called the police and tried to settle Galloway's nerves by giving him water, but as he did, "he just kept telling more and more" of what happened.

The two men then went back to the scene of Galloway's escape in Hill's truck, concerned about the safety of the two other persons who had been abducted, Nance Strole and Patricia Wainscott, both 22, and from Terre Haute.

"It didn't dawn on me that he (the man involved in the abduction) may still be down there," Hill said. "But as we got closer to the area Galloway locked the truck door and slipped real low into his seat.

"When police began to question him (Galloway) he was so shaken up he couldn't tell them his name," Hill recalled. "But he knew everything about the car, and quickly remembered the license plate number."

Galloway told Hill that the man who had abducted him (who was reportedly carrying a gun and knife) yelled for him to return to the car after running away.

"He promised not to kill him if he returned," Hill said.

The man who abducted Galloway and the others reportedly traveled to Evansville with the two women following the Elliston stop.

Community Affairs File

Vigo County Public Library

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(new)



HOME NEAR KOLEEN WHERE DUREGGER WENT FOR HELP



SITE, NEAR ELLISTON WHERE GALLOWAY ESCAPED



FARM NEAR ELLISTON WHERE GALLOWAY SOUGHT HELP

MAY, RONALD

Community Affairs File

Crime + Criminals (I#)

Community Affairs File

Jury finds Ronald May guilty

T JUL 22 1981

By JOE BEACH
Tribune Staff Writer

Ronald May, a Shelburn man charged with robbery and four counts of criminal confinement, was found guilty on all counts shortly before noon today by a Vigo Circuit Court jury.

The jury took one hour to find May guilty.

The prosecution completed its case Tuesday, with the defense calling no witnesses in action this morning.

Sentencing for May has been set for Aug. 17.

May had been accused in alleged connection with a reported robbery at the Pizza Inn restaurant on Davis Avenue and with taking four employees on a ride through the Indiana countryside on Sept. 28, 1980.

Vigo County Prosecutor Eric Abel presented the state's case against May.

The eight women and four men on the jury heard the testimony of several witnesses Tuesday, including the four restaurant employees involved in the incident.

"In the state's view, this is an

extremely serious matter," Abel said in his opening statement to the jury.

In testimony that Abel described as the most dramatic he had ever heard, Pizza Inn assistant manager Rober Durregger told the jury his account of the incident.

Durregger, who allegedly was attacked during the incident in rural Greene County, appeared in court wearing pajamas and a robe. Durregger was released from a hospital Monday after treatment for wounds he received in the September incident.

Durregger told the jury that a man came to the restaurant after closing time early in the morning of Sept. 28. Durregger said the man, whom he identified during his testimony as May, was allowed in because he had done some work at the restaurant.

There were three other employees in the restaurant at the time.

After some small talk, Durregger said the man produced a handgun and told him he was robbing the restaurant and taking the employees somewhere along the road to tie them up.

Durregger said he and another male employee, Bruce Galloway, were forced into the trunk of the car. Two female employees got in the front seat, he testified.

Durregger said they were driven for some time, then stopped on a deserted country road. Durregger told the jury the man led him into the woods and told him to lie face down with his hands underneath him.

According to the testimony, the man then allegedly hit Durregger with the gun, knocking him unconscious. Durregger said when he woke up the man was "sawing" on his neck with a knife. He was then stabbed in the back, Durregger said.

"I saw my whole life pass before my eyes," Durregger said.

He added that he heard the car pull away and somehow managed to make it to a nearby farm house. The incident took place near Kolen, in Greene County.

Galloway, recounting the incident, said he was also led into a clearing in the woods after being driven some distance from where Durregger was left.

Galloway said he was also instructed to lie face down on the ground. A struggle ensued and Galloway managed to wrestle free and run away, he said during his testimony.

During his time on the witness stand, Galloway identified May as the man who attacked him.

The two females, Nancy Strole and Patricia Wainscott, told the jury they stayed in the car when Durregger and Galloway were taken away because they were frightened.

Both women, during their testimony, identified May as the man who had forced them into the car.

According to their testimony, the man took them to a hotel in Evansville. He allegedly tied both women up with bedsheets, and one of the women was allegedly raped.

The women said the man left and they managed to free themselves. The hotel manager called police.

May was arrested in Christian County, Ky.

May also faces charges in Greene County in alleged connection with this same incident.

REFERENCE
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Vigo County Public Library

Abductor Given Prison Term

^S AUG 14 1981
Judge Hugh McQuillan of Vigo Circuit Court sentenced a rural Shelburn man to a total of 85 years with the Indiana Department of Correction in connection with the abduction and robbery of four employees at a Pizza Inn in September, 1980.

Ronald L. May, 26, was sentenced to 20 years on Count 1, confinement; 20 years on Count 2, confinement; 20 years on Count 3, robbery; 15 years on Count 4, confinement; and 10 years on Count 5, confinement. The sentences are to be served consecutively.

May was found guilty on all counts by a jury in July.

He asked Judge McQuillan why he was so strict, after hearing the sentences pronounced.

Judge McQuillan replied that the seriousness of the crimes with which May had been charged requires that he will never walk the streets again.

Vigo County Prosecutor Eric Abel presented the case for the state. He told The Star he was pleased with the sentences, although he had asked for 100 years, a full 20 years on each count.

The crimes were committed Sept. 28, 1980 when May kidnapped two men and two women from Pizza Inn, with approximately \$1,900 from the restaurant, and took them on a six-hour ride through southern Indiana and into Kentucky. The ride was marked with rape, stabbing, beating and armed robbery.

The victims were Robert Duregger, 30; Patricia Wainscott, 22, and Nancy Strohle, 21, all of Terre Haute, and Bruce Galloway, 22, a student at Indiana State University from Logansport.

The two men were forced into the trunk of the car, according to reports. Duregger was taken from the car in Greene County, his throat cut and left. The injured man staggered to a nearby house, obtaining help and starting the police search.

Galloway was taken from the car near Elliston, also in Greene County

and beaten. He escaped, also found help.

May was said to have taken the two women to Evansville where he registered in a motel, raped one of the women and left both tied with bedsheets. They escaped, and obtained assistance from the motel manager.

Within two hours, May was arrested near Hopkinsville, Ky. and turned over to Indiana authorities. He had a .32 calibre pistol, a knife and about \$1,900 in a Pizza Inn bag when caught.

May had been admitted to Pizza Inn after closing hours because he was known to the employees as his wife, Linda, worked there on the day shift.

May served two years in federal prisons starting in 1974 for writing a threatening letter to President Richard M. Nixon. He also threatened other public officials, including U.S. Federal District Judge James E. Noland.

He also had a juvenile record, and served time in the Michigan City State Prison.



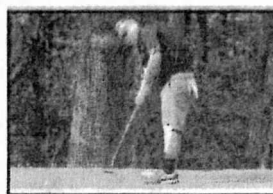
MAY SENTENCED — Ronald L. May is shown getting into a police car following his arraignment in Vigo Circuit Court in October 1980 for the kidnapping of four employees of Pizza Inn, robbing the restaurant, and stabbing and beating the two men and raping one of the two women on a six-hour ride through southern Indiana. He was sentenced to a total of 85 years by Judge Hugh McQuillan in Circuit Court Thursday. (Star Staff Photo)

REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE

May, RONALD

NORTH WINS GOLF TITLE

South's Liebermann is individual winner, **SPORTS | B1**



TWO KILLED IN CRASH

A crash on U.S. 40 in Vigo County near East Glenn claimed two lives, **NEWS - A3**

Tribune Star

WWW.TRIBSTAR.COM

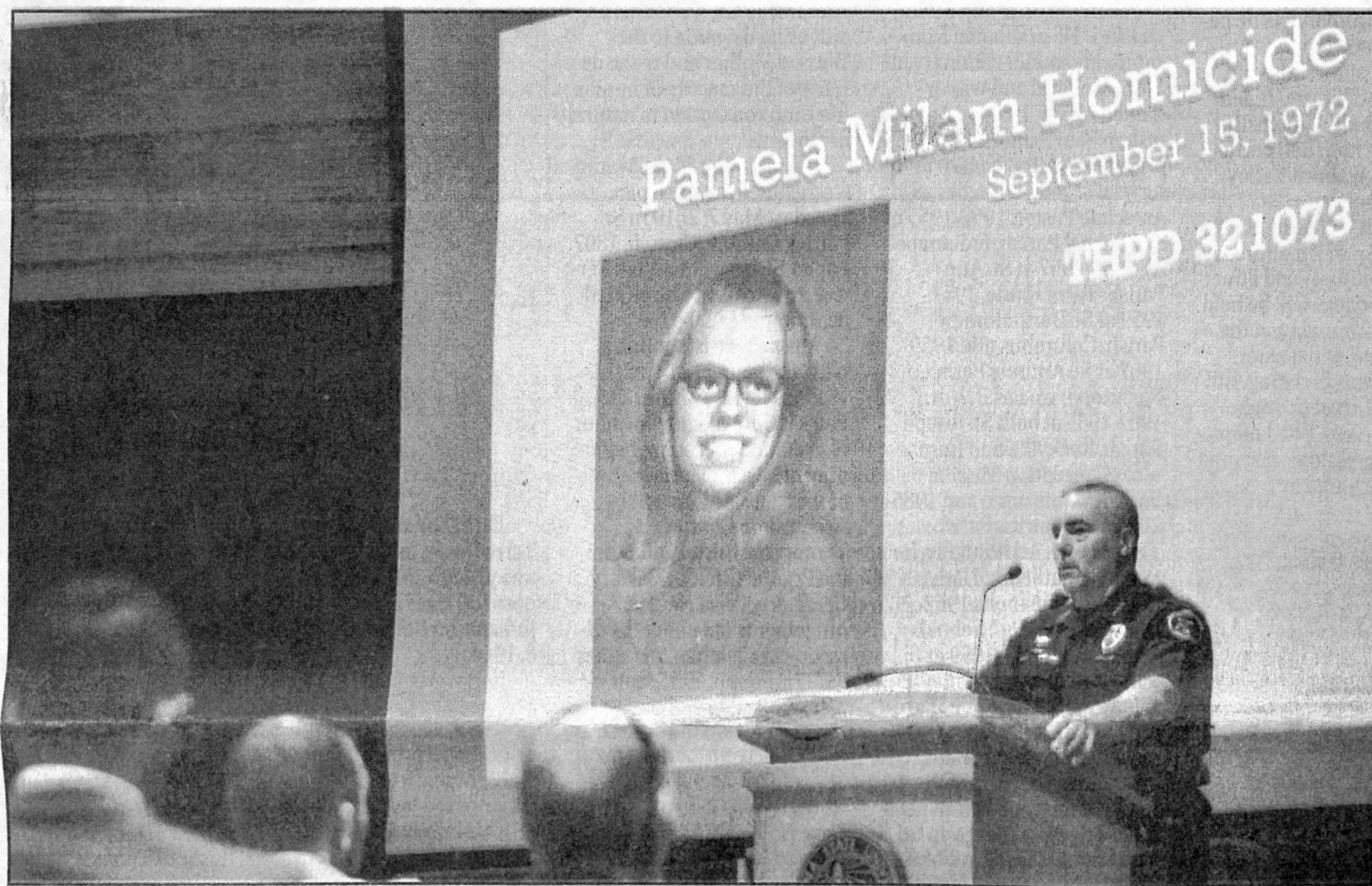
TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2019

SERVING TERRE HAUTE AND THE WABASH VALLEY

\$1.00 NEWSSTAND

Suspect, now dead, ID'd in '72 cold case

Police identify man they say killed ISU student Pam Milam



Tribune-Star/Austen Leake

Case closed: Terre Haute Chief of Police, and lead detective on the cold case of Pamela Milam's 1972 homicide, held a press conference at Indiana State University on Monday to discuss how they solved the case using DNA evidence.

Oldest Terre Haute cold case solved

By LISA TRIGG
TRIBUNE-STAR

The 46-year-old cold case killing of a 19-year-old Indiana State University student in 1972 has been solved, largely by the determination of a detective who wasn't even alive when the crime occurred.

Shawn Keen, now the Terre Haute chief of police, explained in detail Monday the years of investigation into the killing of Pam Milam, whose bound-and-gagged body was found in the trunk of her car on the ISU campus in September 1972.

DNA technology not available in the '70s was used to identify Milam's killer as Jeffrey Lynn Hand, a 23-year-old delivery man who traveled the Midwest and happened to be on the Indiana State campus on Sept. 15, 1972.

Turn to **CASE, A4**

Reports: Homicide suspect lived short, violent life

By MARK FITTON
TRIBUNE-STAR

Kidnapping and homicide suspect Jeffrey Lynn Hand's life was short and violent, according to police and media accounts prior to his death in 1978.

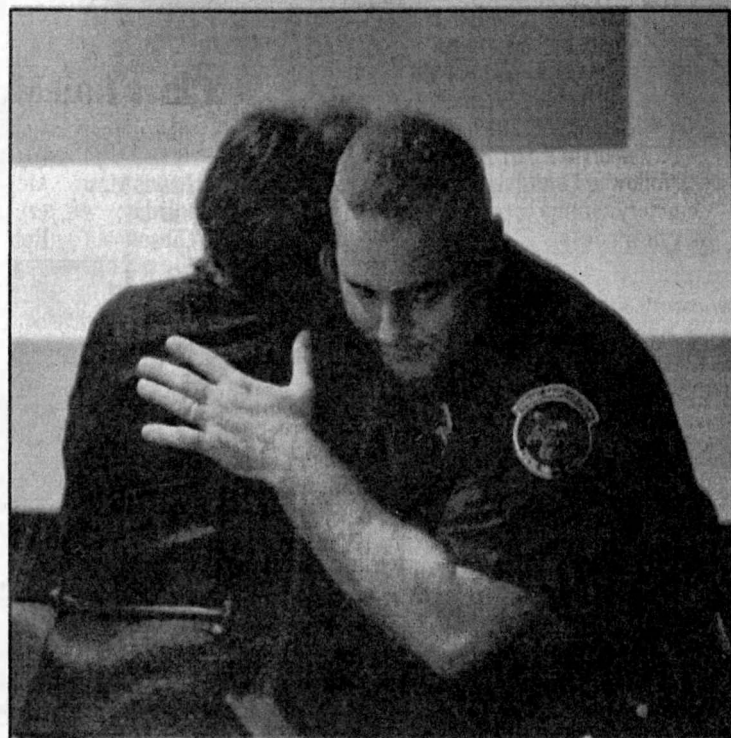
By the age of 28, when he was shot to death after turning a gun on Kokomo and Howard County police responding to a report of an abduction at a shopping center, he'd already been involved in the September 1972 abduction and killing of 19-year-old Indiana State University student Pam Milam in Terre Haute,

according to police.

And in between those crimes, authorities say, Hand in June 1973 kidnapped a pair of hitchhikers in Terre Haute near U.S. 41 and Interstate 70 and had driven them to a rural Warrenton farm.

Hand was apparently living at the farm, alternately reported as being either in southern Gibson County or northern Vanderburgh County, although some newspaper accounts of the time also identify Hand as being from Princeton.

Turn to **SUSPECT, A4**



Grateful: Sheila Milam, the sister of the late Pamela Milam, hugs Terre Haute Chief of Police Shawn Keen after he announced that they had solved the case of her sister's 1972 homicide during a press conference at Indiana State University on Monday.

Tribune-Star/Austen Leake

Tribstar.com

Video extra

See a video of Terre Haute Chief of Police Shawn Keen and Pamela Milam's sister, Sheila, speaking at the press conference with this story at www.tribstar.com.

Case: Sister said it was a long 46 years, 7 months and 20 days

Continued from A1

Keen said he believes Hand randomly picked Milam as his victim as she returned to her parked car following an on-campus party.

"I think he intercepted her," Keen said.

According to police and media reports, Hand would later be implicated in two other abductions - one of which also began in Terre Haute and also ended in a death.

"He was parked somewhere in the area," Keen said of that night in September 1972. "I think that's why he parked her car in another lot, to get back to his own car."

Keen delivered a calm

presentation of the facts in the Milam case on Monday afternoon in ISU's Hulman Memorial Student Union - just a few dozen yards from the spot where Milam was abducted.

"We're at the epicenter of all of it," Keen said as he stood among the sisters, relatives and friends of Milam.

"I'm not sure we ever thought we'd be able to get here today," said Charlene Sanford, Milam's oldest sister, about the resolution of the case.

She thanked Keen for his "persistent and meticulous" investigation, saying the wait has been a long: 46 years, 7 months and 20 days.

"Shawn Keen is one of the most wonderful people on this planet," said Sheila Milam, who was with her father when they found Pam's body. Her parents, Charles and Helen Milam, died without knowing who killed their daughter.

THE CASE IN '72

Evidence recovered by investigators in 1972 showed Milam had been taken to a wooded location and assaulted. She was bound with clothes line and tape that had been used in decorations at a fraternity rush party she had attended.

Milam had taken those items with her back to her car. She told friends she was going to move her car from the parking lot near the "men's PE [physical education] annex," where the party occurred, to a lot closer to Lincoln Quad, where she planned to stay with her Sigma Kappa sorority sisters.

Her friends told police they last saw her about 11 p.m. Sept. 15 as she left Holmsted Hall on her way to her car.

Milam's father Charles and sister Sheila, who were looking for Milam after she was reported missing by friends, found the young woman's body in her car trunk on Sept. 17, 1972.

Keen said Hand was never among suspects in the crime.

At the time, investigators focused on another man who



Tribune-Star/Austen Leake

Finally over: Pamela Milam's sister Charlene Sanford remarks on how she thought this day would never come during Monday's press conference at Indiana State University announcing that the Terre Haute Police Dept. had solved Milam's 1972 homicide.

was later convicted of abducting other ISU students in November 1972.

That suspect, Robert Wayne Austin, repeatedly denied killing Milam. He served 20 years in prison on the other kidnappings before being released.

Using the DNA profile of a stain on Milam's blouse, investigators checked for a match to Austin. He was cleared of the Milam homicide through DNA testing.

ENTER KEEN, NEW TECHNOLOGY

That left Keen, who became a THPD detective in 2001, with an unsolved homicide that would puzzle him for the next 17 years.

Other checks for DNA matches with known criminals did not return any matches. And fingerprints found on Milam's glasses and on her car did not match any suspects on file.

When Keen became chief of detectives in 2008, he divided the department's cold case files among the detectives. He said he kept the Milam case himself because it was the oldest of the cold cases.

He took the case files home and spent countless hours reviewing notes and tracking down the 56 males who were interviewed in 1972.

In 2008, he got a partial DNA profile of a suspect from the rope used to bind Milam using a new technique called "touch" DNA.

"I tried everything I could think of," Keen said.

And that led him to familial DNA testing, which would allow anyone who had submitted DNA to a database to be linked to other family members. Private

cy laws, however, at first thwarted that search.

In 2017, Keen learned about phenotype testing, which could predict a suspect's appearance by analyzing a DNA sample. With assistance from Joanna Johnson of the Indiana State Police crime lab, samples from the Milam case were submitted.

Keen said he learned the suspect probably had brown eyes, medium brown hair and intermediate to dark skin. That led him to pull arrest records from 1969 to 1974 in search of suspects who had been arrested for violent or sex crimes.

He narrowed the field to 106 possible suspects. There, Keen's hopes seemed dashed, but more advanced testing was still to emerge.

In 2018, Keen connected with Parabon NanoLabs, a DNA technology company in Virginia. Their work showed the suspect as a man with blue or green eyes, blonder hair and light skin.

Parabon also submitted a genetic data profile from the crime scene DNA that was compared to a public genetic genealogy database. A genealogist constructed a family tree with possible common ancestors.

In February, that information led Keen to the Vincennes and Washington, Indiana, areas - and to the widow and sons of Jeffrey Lynn Hand.

Keen said Hand's family was very cooperative and submitted their own DNA samples for testing.

SOLVED, BUT NOT DONE

The results, Keen said, indicated a 99.999 percent match of the suspect DNA to

the father of Hand's sons.

From Hand's widow, Keen learned her young husband had distributed record albums throughout Indiana and Illinois. And that would have taken him through the Terre Haute area on multiple occasions.

In fact, just months after the Milam homicide, Hand was arrested in 1973 after picking up two hitchhikers from Terre Haute on their way to Evansville.

In Gibson County, Hand pulled a firearm on the hitchhikers and tied up both victims before taking the male victim to Posey County and violently killing him, Keen said.

Hand would be found not guilty of that murder by reason of insanity in a jury trial conducted in Monroe County after a change of venue from Vanderburgh County. He was set free in June 1976.

Hand was killed in January 1978 in a shootout with police in Kokomo, after he attempted to abduct a woman in her car.

"I think he is probably guilty of other violent crimes," Keen said of Hand.

"I'm hoping that through the news media, other police agencies will hear about this case and look through their cold case files to see if they have anything in this time frame that could be connected to Hand," Keen said after the news conference.

Keen said Hand's widow could not remember the name of her husband's long-ago employer, and she is unsure of where his routes might have taken him.

Despite the announcement Monday, the investigation is not complete. Keen said he continues to seek the records of the crimes in Gibson County and Kokomo to review and look for another other connections.

One possible crime that could be connected to Hand exists in Wisconsin, Keen said.

But the Terre Haute Police Department can consider this case solved.

Keen said on May 1, he met with Vigo County Chief Deputy Prosecutor Rob Roberts and presented the evidence in the Milam case. If Hand was alive today, Keen said, Roberts determined there would be probable cause to pursue an arrest warrant.

Lisa Trigg can be reached at 812-231-4254 or at lisa.trigg@tribstar.com. Follow her on Twitter at TribStarLisa.

Suspect: In 1976, Hand was released from a state mental hospital

Continued from A1

The 22-year-old Evansville woman got away after Hand forced her husband to leave - alone - with him.

While she escaped and was able to lead state police to the farm and later identify Hand, the woman's 22-year-old husband was found dead in a wooded area in Posey County. He'd been shot in the head and stabbed several times.

Hand was charged with murder and held in Vanderburgh County, but he was tried in Monroe County after a change of venue. In October of 1973, a Monroe County jury cleared Hand of the murder charge, finding him innocent by reason of insanity. He was committed to a state mental hospital.

A 1975 attempt to bring kidnapping charges in the abduction of the Evansville couple was not successful, as a judge ruled such charges should have been incorporated into the original trial.

In June 1976, Hand was released from the state mental hospital and was reportedly living in Washington with a wife and child.

In early May 1978, Kokomo police and Howard County deputies responded to a report of an abduction at the Markland Mall.

Cut off by a deputy driving an unmarked squad car, Hand reportedly jumped from that woman's car and ran down an alley eventually pulling and firing a .32-caliber revolver, striking the deputy in the left hand and left side.

Kokomo officers then fired on Hand, striking him three times and killing him, according to press reports.



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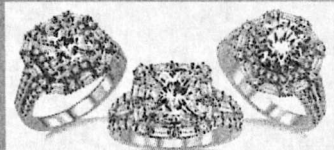
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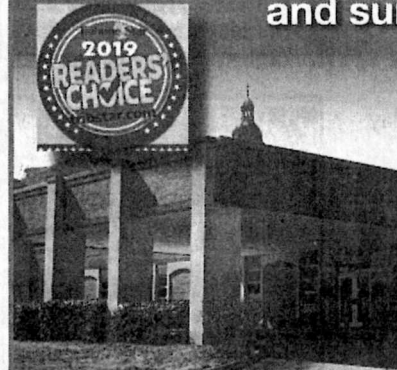


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Milam Murder Similarity Seen

Murder of a Miami Beach, Fla., girl connected with an arrest in Indianapolis and another local missing person report were called to the attention of Terre Haute police investigating the Pamela Milam murder Friday.

The body of 20-year-old Stephanie Weiner was found in a sleeping bag near Salisbury, Md., a week before the death of the local 19-year-old Indiana State University coed.

Reports from Salisbury state that the Weiner girl had been strangled with a piece of rope found in the sleeping bag.

The cause of death in the local case has been reported strangulation. Unofficial accounts have stated that a piece of clothesline rope was knotted about the neck of Miss Milam's body.

Meanwhile, police received a report early Friday that Terry Lynn Davis, 25, 1035 N. 8th St., had been missing since Thursday morning. She was said to have been employed as a waitress at a downtown restaurant where she quit work at 10 a.m. Thursday and had not been seen since.

In the Weiner murder investigation, it was reported that the girl and a young man left Miami Beach Sept. 1, en route to Patterson, N.J. A camera owned by her was pawned in Patterson two days later.

Maryland State Police said that they were informed by In-

dianapolis police this week that Miss Weiner's van was found in the possession of a young man who was attempting to sell it. He is reported in custody there for questioning on interstate transportation of a stolen vehicle.

Miss Weiner's body was found Sept. 8 by a passerby, the report continued, noting that identification was made through dental charts and a pair of eyeglasses found in the sleeping bag.

Terre Haute police were checking reports as the Milam murder inquiry continued under strict secrecy.

Rose-Hulman Student Dies After Crash

A 19-year-old Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology student died from injuries Friday morning after his car struck a utility pole, slid 170 feet across rain-slicked Home Ave., and hit a second pole.

According to the Terre Haute Police Department, the student, Raymond E. Wallace Jr., of Falls Church, Va., was admitted to St. Anthony Hospital with

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Final Rites Are Held for Murder Victim

Funeral services for Pamela Milam, 19, 1010 Dawn Lane, who was strangled, were held at 2 p.m. Tuesday in the Washington Ave. Presbyterian Church.

The Indiana State University coed was found dead, bound and gagged Saturday night in the trunk of her car on a 5th St. parking lot across from Lincoln Quad, a large ISU housing complex.

After memorial services at the church, the body was taken for burial in Mt. Pleasant Cemetery.

The victim's funeral was attended by many of her sorority sisters and fellow students. ISU President Dr. Alan Rankin and John Truitt, ISU vice president in charge of student affairs, also attended the services.

Several of Miss Milam's classmates served as pallbearers. She was graduated from Honey Creek High School in 1971.

Miss Milam was described as being "very religious" and several persons involved in the Jesus Movement of Terre Haute attended the services.

Also present at Tuesday's funeral were several of Miss Milam's relatives.

Perhaps the general feeling at the funeral was expressed when one of Miss Milam's sorority sisters left asking "why, why, why?"



DID YOU SEE THIS CAR? The deep red 1964 Pontiac Tempest two-door with a "JESUS" plate on the front bumper and missing the right rear hubcap is the car in which the body of 19-year-old ISU sophomore Pamela Milam was found last Saturday night. Chief of Police James Swift has requested help in getting information concerning the whereabouts of the auto from 4 p.m. Friday until approximately 8:45 p.m. Saturday, which includes the period during which the girl was missing. Anyone who saw the car during that time period is asked to call police. Martin Photo.

Community Affairs File

Murder Car Movement May Lead Police to Solution

Community Affairs File

T SEP 22 1972

The Milam murder investigation centered on the movement of the victim's car as Police Chief James Swift released pictures of the auto Friday and asked assistance from the general public.

Chief Swift asked that anyone who saw the car, during the period from 4 p.m. last Friday until about 8:45 p.m. Saturday when the girl's body was found, to notify police.

The body, bound and gagged and with a rope around the victim's neck, was found Saturday night by the girl's father in the trunk of the car on an Indiana State University parking lot on N. 5th St. Cause of death was reported to be strangulation, with the time of death believed to have been about midnight Saturday.

That was shortly after a sorority party at Lincoln Quad which followed an earlier sorority meeting elsewhere dealing with "rush" plans for the weekend.

Concern among Miss Milam's sorority sisters developed when she did not appear for a series of meetings Saturday. Reports

also state that she had planned to move into the sorority suite for the weekend as she was active in organization activities.

It apparently was this factor that allayed possible earlier concern on the part of her parents. However, that concern began to mount when she did not report to work Saturday morning at the Southland library branch, according to accounts of the day.

A dozen or more friends and acquaintances of Miss Milam

were questioned by police in the hours immediately following the discovery last Saturday night. Indications are that many more have been interviewed during the week. Chief Swift has reported many false leads have been followed by detectives in the search for clues.

Photographs of the car display the 1964 Pontiac Tempest, deep red in color, with a "JESUS" plate on the front bumper and

Continued On Page 10, Col. 3.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 22, 1972

Murder Car

Continued from Page One
SEP 22 1972

with the right rear wheel cover missing.

Local police detectives and investigators from the ISU security office were joined by police technicians at a site on the east bank of the Wabash River about 10 a.m. Thursday, but newsmen were ordered away, and authorities offered no clues to their reasons for being at the property which is now owned by the university.

The tragic death of the pretty ISU coed, described by her acquaintances as being a likable and very religious person, is the first mystery slaying in the city since the unsolved murder of Mrs. Joan Fox, a 35-year-old divorcee, in 1967.

She was found dead in her apartment at the corner of Sixth-and-a-half and Sycamore Streets, an area now encompassed by the expanding university.

Her killer was never arrested, and her apartment house was damaged by fire a short time afterward and later demolished in a renewal program.

In February, 1958, Charles Fisk, 67, a tax consultant and real estate dealer, was beaten to death in a Twelve Points Hotel room. Police thought at the time that robbery was a motive in that case, but no suspects were ever charged.

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Missing Girl Found Bound In Car Trunk

The body of 19-year-old Pamela Milam, 1010 Dawn Lane, a commuter student at Indiana State University, was found after an all-day search by her father in the trunk of her car at 8:45 p.m. Saturday night.

When the girl failed to return home Friday evening, the father, Charles Milam, searched throughout the day on the campus and finally spotted the car on an ISU parking lot across from Lincoln Quad at Fifth and Lafayette avenue.

Accompanied by a friend, the father opened the trunk of the car and found his daughter dead, gagged and bound. She had been murdered.

Nixon Reports Net Worth At \$765,118

WASHINGTON (AP) —President Nixon reported Saturday his net worth has increased \$168,218 since he took office and now totals \$765,118—or about three times that of Democratic nominee George McGovern.

Vice President Spiro Agnew, in a statement issued simultaneously, said his net worth grew by \$87,166 since 1969 and stands now at \$198,250.

Most of Nixon's \$1,283,256 in assets are in California and Florida real estate holdings and in savings accounts. The bulk of his \$518,138 in liabilities is in mortgages and trust deed notes payable on the land holdings.

The one-page statement prepared by White House counsel John Wesley Dean III said the increase in Nixon's net worth since his latest prior statement,

The preliminary cause of the death was determined by Coroner Dr. Robert Burkle who said she died from strangulation by a rope found around her neck. Dr. Burkle performed an autopsy to determine the cause of death. He said, too, that wounds to the head and face were inflicted by sharp tail lamps assemblies within the trunk and were not a contributing factor.

Steve Warrem, 1745½ Locust St., a former ISU student, said that sorority sisters of the dead girl had expressed concern about her and asked him to check her car.

Warrem had approached the car when the girl's father arrived with a duplicate set of keys. They opened the trunk and found the body.

Persons present at the scene told the Tribune that "a lot of tape" was fastened about her mouth and chin and that a clothesline type rope had been tied around her neck and wrists.

It was also reported that her face bore marks which indicated a beating, although her clothing was not mussed and no other signs of violence were apparent.

One observer noted that the

Continued On Page 8, Col. 1.

Continued on Page 11, Col. 2

ISU Coed

Continued From Page One.

toe of one of her shoes was encrusted with a sandy substance.

Other unofficial reports suggested the following circumstances during the 24 hours prior to the tragic discovery.

Pamela had attended a sorority meeting Friday night at Holmstedt Hall. Her friends noted that she had not parked in her usual spot near the building. She had expressed fear of parking at a more remote location and had said she didn't like to walk a long distance to the car, and her sorority sisters remarked at the fact that her car was not in its usual place.

A party in the Lincoln Quad, where the sorority maintains a suite for its members, followed the meeting.

Several girls, believed to have been the last to see Miss Milam Friday night, were at police headquarters Saturday evening to assist police with information.

Warren and another young man also were interviewed by officers, including Police Chief Jim Swift, Assistant Chief Gerald Loudermilk, Detective Chief Frank Hoffman and ISU security police.

In addition, numerous detectives and other officers were called in from off-duty hours.

Dr. Alan Rankin, ISU president, also came to City Hall and was seen consulting with Chief Swift and others.

Reports indicated that the girl's father called ISU police after the discovery of the body.

University police notified city officials and the investigation commenced quickly as Coroner Robert Burkle was called.

Police technicians from both departments went over the car seeking clues, after the initial search by officers first on the scene.

Among effects brought to city police headquarters from the car was a small box-like handbag gaily painted with pictures of large mushrooms.

A young man, his face in his hands, sat weeping bitterly as the handbag was brought in.

ISU Combats Growing Fear of Violence

Indiana State University students have joined forces in an effort to combat the spreading fear of violence on campus.

Monday night a Dayton, Ohio, girl, Sharon Harley, 22, 501 Hendricks Hall, was treated and released from Union Hospital after suffering an attack by an unknown assailant.

Officials say Miss Harley was sliced across the back with a knife or sharp object. Witnesses say the attacker was a youth on a bicycle.

Rumors ran rampant on the campus following the Monday night incident and the murder of Pam Milam, 19, 2010 Dawn Lane, a pretty Terre Haute sorority girl, who was found strangled, bound and gagged, in the trunk of her car in a parking lot across from Lincoln Quad Saturday night.

Male students from campus dorms Monday volunteered to escort female students to and from evening classes. Most girls accepted the gesture with no argument.

In the residence halls there was talk of leaving school and going home until the criminals could be apprehended.

Students have pledged to do whatever they can to stop further incidents of violence on the Indiana State campus.

No arrests have been made in either case and the Terre Haute Police Department is going all out to uncover the murderer of Miss Milam and the attacker of Miss Harley.

"The girls in the residence halls are in a state of near-panic. I certainly hope they solve this thing soon. If something else happens I just won't know what to tell the students," said one ISU dorm director.

Nevertheless, no new clues have been uncovered in the murder case. "We have nothing new on the case," said a Terre Haute Police detective spokesman.

Miss Milam's clothing has been taken to the Indiana State



W. RAY MIZE, left, manager of the Terre Haute Water Works, showed J. J. Barr, president of the American Water Works Company, Inc., parent corporation of the local investor-owned utility, a copy of the pamphlet "The Freedom Collection," that is being distributed by the water company during its 100th birthday celebration. Barr and other distinguished guests are in Terre Haute for the dinner tonight at the Holiday Inn that is a part of the week-long anniversary observance. Photo by Martin.

Senate Votes To Compensate Crime Victims

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate has approved legislation to compensate victims of crime and the "good Samaritans" who go to their rescue.

The amendment was attached to an omnibus crime bill which passed the Senate by a 74-0 vote Monday. The bill also would make it a federal crime

Water Industry Trends Are Told

By CAROLYN TOOPS
Tribune Staff Writer

"The water works industry today is facing its greatest challenges in the areas of environmental and pollution control," said J. J. Barr, of Philadelphia, Pa., president of the American Water Works Company, Inc., parent company of Terre Haute Water Works Corporation. "We've done a good job of

than 40 years, beginning his career with Northeastern Water Co. in 1934.

He has been associated with American Water Works since 1947, when its present corporate structure was established. The company's predecessor has been American Water Work & Electric Co., Inc., until 1947.

Presently 82 corporations are part of American Water Works, Barr said, with 78 operating

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ISU Combats

Continued From Page One-

ols for analyzation in the hopes some clues can be lifted from the articles.

A thorough check of all week-end complaints to police headquarters from the campus vicinity and elsewhere are being looked into for possible leads as to the reason for the teenager's murder.

One of the police's main problems has been establishing a motive. Everyone who knew Pam Milam apparently found her to be a personable and attractive girl.

Miss Milam was last seen alive at a party Friday night. Dr. Robert Burkle, Vigo County coroner, said the girl died that same night.

The victim was found tied, hand and foot, with a denim material stuffed in her mouth, which was covered with a large amount of masking tape. She was not sexually assaulted, according to Dr. Burkle.

Police say that no one saw Miss Milam leave the sorority party and no one heard her mention plans for after the party.

Miss Milam's father, Charles Milam, an employee of Sears, Roebuck and Co., reported his daughter missing late Friday when she failed to return home after the party. He personally led the search early in the Saturday and later that day. When Milam discovered his daughter's car at 8:45 p.m. Saturday he used a spare set of keys to open it and upon raising the trunk, found the victim.

Miss Milam was a member of Sigma Kappa and sorority members told police the car was moved from where she had parked it before the party, although it was only a few feet further back on the lot, which is located on 5th St. across from the Sigma Kappa sorority suite in Lincoln Quad.

According to reports, the sorority suite has been evacuated for the time being. Some members feel the killer may have a personal vendetta against Sigma Kappa.

The body was taken to the De Baun Funeral Home, where friends may call until 1 p.m. Tuesday. At that time the body will be taken to the Washington Avenue Presbyterian Church for funeral services at 2 p.m. Tuesday. The Rev. Neil Cowling will officiate, and burial will be in the Mt. Pleasant Cemetery.

In addition to the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Milam, the girl is survived by two sisters, Sheila, at home, and Mrs. Charlene Sanford, Richmond.

Dr. Alan C. Rankin, President of Indiana State University, expressed shock and sadness over the murder. "Pam was a lovely young woman and her tragic death will never be understood by her countless friends at the University and in the community," said Dr. Rankin.

He added, the University Safety and Security staff is co-operating closely with the Terre Haute City Police Department in the intensive investigation.

He urged anyone having any information to call the Terre Haute City Police.

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T SEP 30 1972

Milam Murder Probe Still In 'No Comment' Stage

Crime and Criminals (T.H.)
Community Affairs File

Murder inquiries here and on the east coast — brought together by coincidence Friday — appeared to be drawing apart Saturday.

Terre Haute detectives, investigating the death two weeks ago of 19-year old ISU coed Pamela Milam, were alerted to an inquiry by Maryland police into the death of a 20-year old Miami

Beach, Fla., girl in Maryland. Both victims had been strangled with rope, according to reports from the separate investigations, the body of Ina Stephanie Weiner having been found near Salisbury, Md., on Sept. 8.

And a young man now being questioned in her death was arrested this week by Indiana po-

lice as he attempted to sell a vehicle said to have been driven by the Weiner girl when she left Miami Beach Sept. 1.

Henry L. King, 23, Chesapeake, Va., held under \$10,000 bond in the Putnam County jail at Greencastle, was arrested Sept. 20 on U.S. 40 near Putnamville on a vehicle-taking charge, according to that report.

Terre Haute Detective Chief Frank Hoffman, advised of the Weiner case and the arrest just 35 miles from Terre Haute, said:

"It's worth checking out."

However, unofficial comment Saturday failed to indicate much enthusiasm for that line of inquiry as local police apparently continued to follow other leads under the close secrecy which has characterized the Milam murder investigation. Official comment remained:

"No comment."

Reports from Florida state that Miss Weiner was headed for Canada in the company of a young man named Hank who begged a ride as far as Patterson, N.J., to see a sick relative. One report said it was his wife, another, his mother.

In Miami Beach, the girl's father, Milton Weiner, was quoted at length in a wire service story

Continued On Page 2, Col. 3.

T SEP 30 1972
Murder

Continued From Page One.

which said she "... wanted to be a hippie."

United Press International reported Weiner said Friday:

"I gave her some of my old shirts so she could be like the others. She was such an innocent girl. So naive for a 20-year-old. She couldn't have known a hippie from a drug addict."

He became worried, when she didn't telephone as promised, and began his own inquiry through police which turned up the name Hank King.

While his efforts continued, a father's search also developed in Terre Haute when Charles Milam learned that his daughter was missing from several sorority functions she had planned to attend.

Milam's search ended on an ISU parking lot where he found Pamela's body in the trunk of her car about 8:45 p.m. Sept. 16.

Weiner then traced King to Paterson, N.J. Police there found King two weeks ago and asked him to call Weiner. King made the call and Weiner said King told him "Ina arrived safely, then took off on a motorcycle for Brooklyn."

"Then he got rattled and said he left Ina off in North Carolina, or maybe Florida. He said he still had the van and all of Ina's possessions, but told me he had paid her \$500."

King Vanishes

King vanished. Later, police in Maryland found the decomposed body of a girl stuffed in

a sleeping bag at a roadside park near Baltimore.

The body went unidentified for several days. Weiner heard about it, contacted Baltimore police and dental records were checked. Friday, Milton Weiner's worst fears came true. The girl in the sleeping bag was Ina.

King, meanwhile, had been picked up in Indiana.

"If I hadn't done anything, Ina probably would have been buried in a potter's field," Weiner said, "and we wouldn't have known what happened to her."

Police Check Clues in ISU Coed Slaying

T SEP 18 1972

Community Affairs File

Terre Haute City Police were checking a "broken into" building near the Fifth St. and Lafayette Ave. ISU parking lot where the strangled body of 19-year-old Indiana State University coed Pamela Milam of 1010 Dawn Lane was found stuffed in the trunk of her automobile Saturday evening.

City Police Chief of Detectives Frank Hoffman said, "We are investigating the reported break-in", when queried early Monday morning. However, the location of the building, where reports said "it appears a party had been held", could not be learned nor whether it is on or off campus.

Hoffman said a number of persons have been questioned, however, no arrests have been made. He further acknowledged that investigation of certain conditions, relative to the victim's clothing are being checked at the Indianapolis Indiana State Police Laboratory.

"We're taking no chances," Hoffman stated. "We're taking the items to Indianapolis ourselves, personally."

A member of the detective staff said a thorough check of all weekend complaints to police headquarters from the campus vicinity and elsewhere are being sifted for any possible clue to happenings that have led to Miss Milam's death.

The parking lot, where the body was found, is located across Lincoln Quad, a university apartment complex which includes the Sigma Kappa sorority suite where Miss Milam had stayed.

She had attended a sorority membership selection meeting on campus Friday night where she is believed to have been last seen before the violence occurred that claimed her life.

She was found Saturday evening by her father, Charles Milam, who instituted a search when Miss Milam failed to visit her home for the weekend as planned. The father used a duplicate key, the victim's purse being found empty and the car keys gone. She was not believed to have been carrying a large



PAMELA MILAM

Co-ed Slaying

T SEP 18 1972

Continued From Page One

amount of money.

Vigo County Coroner Dr. Robert Burkle placed the time of death at about midnight Friday. There was no evidence of a struggle or that the victim had been beaten or assaulted, according to Dr. Burkle, who attributed wounds about the face and head to sharp tiallight assemblies inside the trunk.

He said Miss Milam was probably dead before being placed in the trunk. A rope was found tied around her neck and wrists and tape had been placed over her mouth. The body was fully clothed. He listed strangulation as the cause of death.

Chief of Detectives Frank Hoffman stated Sunday evening that fingerprints had been found on some evidence within the victim's automobile and he added that police also have other clues at the Indiana State Police Laboratory in Indianapolis. He said his final official report would not be forthcoming until receipt of the test results which may require several weeks.

Meanwhile, the family of the victim prepared to bury their dead.

The body was taken to the De Baun Funeral Home where friends may call until 1 p.m. Tuesday. At that time, it will be taken to the Washington Avenue Presbyterian Church for funeral services at 2 p.m. The Rev. Neil Cowling will conduct the service and burial will be made in the Mt. Pleasant Cemetery.

Miss Milam was a member of the Second Presbyterian Church of Richmond and attended the local Washington Avenue church.

She was a 1971 graduate of Honey Creek High School, where she was a member of the National Honor Society, had worked as a fulltime employee of the Southland Branch of the Emeline Fairbanks Public Library since her senior year at Honey Creek.

REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE

Milam, Pamela
(victim)

Second Autopsy Was Requested In Unsolved Murder Case Here

By RICHARD EVANS
Star Staff Writer

A noted Indiana pathologist Monday confirmed that he had been asked by the Indiana State Police to perform a second autopsy on the body of Indiana State University coed Pamela Milam, but he said the family of the murdered girl reportedly refused state police authorities permission to conduct the second post-mortem.

Dr. James A. Benz, a leading

Indianapolis forensic pathologist, said during a telephone conversation Monday evening that an Indiana State Police official called him during the early part of the week following the discovery Sept. 16 of Miss Milam's body on the ISU campus.

The 19-year-old girl had been strangled with a rope tied around her neck, and her bound and gagged body was found stuffed into the trunk of her auto parked at the rear of a student parking lot.

+ + +

According to Dr. Benz, who describes himself as a "medical detective who examines bodies to answer legal questions," the police official asked him if he would be willing to

perform the autopsy if police could secure permission.

"As I understand it," the doctor said, "the body had been embalmed by that time and released to the family. I was called back later and told the family had refused permission for the second autopsy."

See MURDER PROBE
On Page 6, Column 5

See Your

News Quiz

On Page 11

A member of the Sigma Kappa sorority, to which the murdered girl belonged, said Friday she and her sorority sisters were asked by the police to not discuss the case with members of the news media.

The victim apparently disappeared shortly after a sorority party she attended broke up about 11 p.m. Sept. 15. Dr. Burkle set the apparent time of death about an hour later at midnight.

The father discovered the body about 8:45 p.m. the next evening, after she was reported missing.

The victim had not been sexually assaulted, and her body bore no signs of a struggle, according to Dr. Burkle, although the coroner indicated an examination of the girl's clothing suggested that they may have been removed and put back on very carefully, either by herself or someone else.

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The local police have also declined to comment on the success of an attempt to locate anyone who might have seen the dead girl's vehicle between the time she disappeared and the time her body was discovered.

Detectives are known to have spent the day last Friday in another Indiana college town in an attempt to interview additional suspects in the case, but that attempt was believed to have been unsuccessful.

Murder Probe

Continued From Page 1

The pathologist said he had no idea what the state police crime lab hoped to uncover in the second autopsy, and he refused to speculate why they were dissatisfied with the first study reportedly conducted at Union Hospital here.

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Vigo County Coroner Dr. Robert Burkle Monday night denied any knowledge of a request for a second autopsy when asked about the latest report indicating that the state police crime lab appeared not to be satisfied with the first post-mortem results.

"Such a request is completely unknown to me," the coroner said, and he declined to identify the local pathologist who conducted the autopsy, saying only that it was done by a "board certified pathologist. His name doesn't really matter," Dr. Burkle said.

+ + +

Meanwhile, Terre Haute police have reported no new developments in their investigation into the mystery slaying, but Chief of Police James Swift has scheduled a press conference for 9 a.m. Tuesday, when he says he will comment on the case.

Swift has stood resolute in his "no comment" to newsmen throughout the two-week investigation.

Police have supplied members of the news media with only the barest of details, and those who have been questioned in connection with the case have been asked not to discuss it with reporters.

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Community Affairs File

Murders/McCown 1-70

to Missouri Killer's search leading police

By Deborah D. Heldman
Tribune-Star Staff Reporter

When Terre Haute police detectives leave Raytown, Mo., on Thursday, they hope to know more about an elusive killer that investigators have dubbed the "I-70 killer."

Including what he looks like.

"Part of the session may be who has the best information in providing a composite sketch of the suspect," said Terre Haute assistant police chief Joe Newport.

There are concerns that two composite sketches already released — one from the Indianapolis Police Department and the other from St. Charles, Mo., police — may not depict the man investigators have linked to six killings since early April.

Newport said the drawings were based on descriptions given to police of a man seen leaving the stores

where the shootings occurred.

"It may be the composite sketch from Wichita is accurate, because there was a witness in the store that the gunman let go," Newport said. "But we don't know anything for sure right now. There are a lot of bits and pieces to put together and we may be able to do that in Raytown."

Police from Wichita, Kan., St. Charles and Indianapolis are joining Terre Haute and Raytown police in Kansas City, Kan., to exchange information about:

- The April 8 shooting of a female clerk in an Indianapolis Payless Shoesource.
- The April 11 shooting of two female clerks in a bridal shop at Wichita.
- The April 27 shooting of Sylvia's Ceramics store owner Michael McCown at Terre Haute.
- The May 3 shooting of a female clerk in a boot store at St. Charles.
- The May 11 shooting of a female store clerk in a

herbal specialty shop at Raytown.

Behavioral studies experts from the FBI are meeting this week with the five police agencies to develop a profile of the killer. Terre Haute and Indianapolis police met with FBI officials Tuesday at Indianapolis, but officials declined to comment about what information was exchanged.

The FBI bureau at Kansas City has completed a preliminary profile of the suspect based on the Wichita case, but has not released it.

All the victims were clerks or managers shot in the back of the head with a .22-caliber weapon, apparently during robberies of stores that do little cash business.

All the victims were women, except for McCown. Police think the killer could have mistaken McCown for a woman because he wore his hair in a ponytail and wore an earring.

Detectives in all five cities now plan to ask employees of truck stops along Interstate 70 if they have seen a trucker or hitchhiker matching any of the

Drifter gives workers scare

Employees of the Hardee's restaurant at Honey Creek Mall had a scare early Tuesday morning when a customer told them he was a serial killer.

Police were later able to determine he was not the man police are searching for in connection with the recent slayings of six store clerks in three states.

"He told the employees: 'How would you like it if someone came in and killed you all?'" said Terre Haute assistant police chief Joe Newport. "But he is not the suspect."

The man police described as a drifter from Terrell, Texas, is scheduled to appear in City Court on Thursday, where he could face charges.

three composite drawings created from descriptions of witnesses.

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Murders / I-70

On the trail of a killer

*Crime and Criminals (w) -

Murders
(Clerks)
I-70

Police trying to draw composite of suspect

TS MAY 17 1992

By Ned Seaton
Associated Press Writer

RAYTOWN, Mo. — He has been described as a coldblooded psychopath, a murderous hitchhiker, a man who has come to enjoy killing.

Authorities have several composite drawings of this serial killer but few other clues to his identity or his whereabouts. His month-long, three-state rampage has left six store clerks dead — all at small shops near interstate highways.

Police believe it started when he walked into a Payless ShoeSource in Indianapolis early in the afternoon of April 8. He somehow



got Robin Fuldauer, 27, a clerk working alone at the store, into a back room of the store and shot her twice in the back of the head with a .22-caliber handgun.

He rifled through the store's cash register but took only a small amount of cash.

Police think he caught a killing fever.

"We believe robbery originally was a motive, but killing is something he finds pleasurable," said Kris Turnbow, police chief in Raytown, a Kansas City suburb where a nationwide investigation is centered.

The suspect has slain five other workers in the past month at small, out-of-the-way stores in Missouri, Kansas and Indiana.

Police have linked the killings through tests of the bullets used and by similarities in the circumstances surrounding the deaths. Authorities also say they have physical evidence linking the crimes, but they decline to identify the evidence.

Eyewitness descriptions of a man believed to be the killer in



Sketches: Top sketch came from a witness in Wichita, the bottom from a witness in Raytown.

Wichita, Kan., and Raytown also match, police say.

He's a white man in his mid-to late 30s, under 6 feet tall, weighing 170 to 180 pounds.

He spoke briefly with one witness in Wichita before a woman was killed. The witness confronted the man, became alarmed and called police, said Wichita Police Lt. Ken Landwehr. Landwehr declined to comment on the content of the conversation.

A Raytown witness said the man acted calm and brazen, "like he didn't care," and strolled away from the scene of the killing.

FBI agents and police in five cities are trying to figure out what kind of person he is, where he may be and what he may do next.

Many theories are being explored: He may pose as a traveling salesman. He may force his way into a store with his gun. He may case the area and strike at a time when a single clerk is vulnerable. He may have invented a plot to kill in seemingly isolated incidents, keeping federal authorities out of the investigation.

"We don't know," said Joseph Newport, assistant police chief at Terre Haute. "We just don't know."

The most recent victim, Sarah L. Blessing, 37, was shot about 6:30 p.m. May 7 in Raytown. An herbalist with two stepsons, she was working part-time as a clerk at a boutique called the Store of Many Colors, which is about three miles south of Interstate 70.

Four days earlier, Nancy Kitzmiller had been shot at The Boot Village, a Western footwear store in St. Charles, Mo., a suburb of St. Louis. The store is only yards away from I-70.

Kitzmiller, 24, graduated from Oklahoma State University in July 1991 with a degree in geography.

"She was well-liked by everybody," said Capt. John O'Rand of the Greater St. Louis Major Case Squad, which has been stumped by the killing. "I've been here 19 years and I've never been involved in a case like this."

About 160 miles east on I-70, Michael McCown, 40, was killed April 27 while on the job at Sylvia's Ceramics, a small store selling handmade ceramic goods in Terre Haute.

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Community Affairs File

McCown had taken over the business from his parents about five years ago, Newport said.

McCown, the only man among the six victims, had long hair and wore an earring. The killer could have mistaken him for a woman as he worked alone in the store, Newport said.

The other slayings were April 11 in Wichita — the only killings that did not happen near I-70. But La Bride d'Elegance, a bridal shop, is adjacent to Interstate 35, which connects to I-70 near Kansas City.

Patricia Magers, 32, the store owner, and clerk Patricia Smith, 23, were shot to death about 6:30 p.m. The killer probably did not realize there were two people in the store, police said.

The link to the Wichita slayings makes the killer's pattern less clear. Why would he go almost 700 miles west of Indianapolis to Wichita, back to Terre Haute, and then west along I-70 through St. Charles and Raytown?

"What would bring him here?" said Wichita Police Capt. George Scantlin. "It doesn't make sense."

All the involved police departments met Wednesday to share case files and to assist in an FBI preparation of a psychological profile of the killer. But no breakthroughs were found.

They issued an ominous warning to stores near interstate highways throughout the nation: Be careful, and try not to leave a clerk on duty alone.

Murders / Clerks I - 70

of killer

Police working on psychological profile

TS MAY 19 1992

By Deborah D. Heldman
Tribune-Star Staff Reporter

Police tracking a serial killer don't know his identity yet, but soon they may know more about the type of person they are seeking.

This week, FBI officials will attempt to draft a psychological profile of the killer, using information obtained last week from police in Terre Haute, Indianapolis, Wichita, St. Charles, Mo., and Raytown, Mo.

Each agency provided the FBI with details of the slayings of store clerks by the so-called I-70 killer in their respective cities.

Nancy Cibulas, a spokeswoman for the FBI's National Center for the Analysis of Violent Crime, said the profiling of a criminal is designed to help police in their

search for that person. Experts drafting a profile look at all the information available to them about the criminal, then present a possible characterization of the type of person most likely to be committing the crimes, Cibulas said.

"It involves age range, sex, educational background, the type of vehicle the person might be driving," she said. "But it is to be used very broadly.

"It is another tool to help narrow who police should look for."

Cibulas said until the study is complete, it is not known if experts will have enough information to compile a psychological profile of the killer.

"Some cases don't lend themselves to profiles," she said.

Terre Haute assistant police chief Joe Newport said Monday his detectives were awaiting the result of the psychological

study from the FBI. He said police were warned there may not be enough details about the killer to do the profile.

Ballistics tests led authorities to conclude the same .22-caliber handgun was used to kill six store clerks in the five Midwest cities, including the April 27 shooting of Sylvia's Ceramics store owner Michael McCown, 40, of Terre Haute.

Police are pursuing hundreds of leads to find the killer. Once he is apprehended, police are counting on two witnesses to provide the best evidence against him.

"We think we have a very good chance to convict him because in the cases in Wichita and Raytown; we have witnesses who saw the suspect," said Rick Pilgrim, a detective with the Raytown Police Department.

The suspect was seen running from an herbal speciality store May 7 in Raytown,

just after a witness heard a shot coming from the store, Pilgrim said.

A male customer in the Wichita bridal shop confronted the armed suspect just before the female owner and an employee were found shot to death in the back of the store April 11.

Investigators are still puzzled about why the killer's apparent usual practice of killing store employees near Interstate 70 does not fit the killing of the two Wichita bridal shop employees, who were working off Interstate 35.

Authorities mapped out this possible sequence: The killer started his rampage April 8 in Indianapolis; traveled almost 700 miles southwest to Wichita, where he killed two store clerks April 11; reversed course and went 620 miles to Terre Haute for the April 27 killing; traveled west again to the St. Louis suburb of St. Charles,

killing again May 3; and moved on to Raytown, killing his most recent victim on May 7.

"Wichita is the aberration," said Wichita police Capt. George Scantlin. "I am not trying to be evasive, but we're not homed in on anything right now. We just don't have the answers."

In the linked incidents, victims were clerks working alone in stores a few miles from I-70 in four cases, and near I-35 in the Wichita case. All the shops, except the Terre Haute ceramics shop, were at the end of a strip mall and had little customer traffic. All the victims were shot in the back of the head.

No one has a clear idea of where the killer is or where he may be headed, Pilgrim said, because the link to Wichita has upset any clear pattern.

"He may be anywhere," Pilgrim said.

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Community Affairs File

Murders, (McCown)

1-70

Store owner shot in head

Investigators, prosecutor seek motive for daytime homicide

APR 28 1992
By Deborah D. Heldman
Tribune-Star Staff Reporter

A customer who went to Sylvia's Ceramic Shop at 2615 S. Third St. on Monday to buy craft supplies instead found the victim of a homicide.

Michael McCown, 40, the owner of the store, had been shot once in the back of the head and his body was left lying in a store aisle, said Vigo County Prosecutor Phillip I. Adler, who went to the shooting scene with Terre Haute police.

Vigo County Coroner Dr. Roland Kohr ruled the shooting a homicide after examining the body inside the store.

Terre Haute police Chief Ray Watts said investigators did not know Monday a motive for the killing.

"At this time we are trying to find out the facts," he said. "If

someone saw or knows something, we would be happy to talk to them."

The body was discovered shortly before 5 p.m., Watts said.

Grieving relatives of the victim gathered in an driveway behind the store and watched as the body, covered by a yellow blanket, was placed in a hearse parked behind the building.

One relative, who arrived at the scene shortly after 6 p.m., shouted to reporters, "this was a hell of a way to find out," after details of the shooting were broadcast on tv. Terre Haute television station during the evening news.

Adler said it appeared the killing had occurred shortly before the customer discovered the body.

"It didn't look like he'd been laying there for hours and hours," Adler said.

The victim had been working alone in the store, police said.

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Murders (McCown)

1-70

slayings

Bullet links city killing to other

TS MAY 09 1992

Illeg Crime and Criminals (w) - Murders (McCown)

By Deborah D. Heldman
Tribune-Star Staff Reporter

Slain ceramics store owner Michael McCown may have been the victim of the same robber suspected of killing at least six clerks in small stores along Interstate 70 from Kansas to Indiana.

A bullet casing found inside Sylvia's Ceramics at 2615 S. Third St. after the April 27 shooting matched those found at the scenes of shootings in Indianapolis and St. Charles, Mo., said assistant chief Joe

Newport of the Terre Haute Police Department.

"We have positively identified the casing at each of the scenes as coming from the same .22-caliber handgun," Newport said after the casings were matched at Indianapolis police headquarters Friday.

It was a news report broadcast on an Indianapolis television station Thursday night that gave city police the tip they needed in the McCown case. Newport saw the report — which did not mention the Terre Haute slaying — that showed similarities in a string of killings that

started April 8 with the shooting of a clerk at an Indianapolis Payless Shoe store and ended Thursday night with the shooting of a clerk at a Raytown, Mo., boutique.

Between the two shootings, a shoe store clerk was shot May 3 inside a St. Charles store and two women were shot at a Wichita, Kan., bridal shop April 11.

Like McCown, all the victims had been shot in the head. All the stores were near I-70, except for the shootings at Wichita.

That report prompted Newport to contact Indianapolis police, which led to a

meeting Friday between the two agencies in Marion County and to telephone conversations with police in St. Charles.

"It was a long shot, but it paid off," Newport said.

There are several similarities between the local shooting and the other slayings, Newport said.

"In each case [except Wichita] there was a single person minding the store. The businesses do not have a lot of walk-in business. McCown may have been shot sixty to ninety minutes before he was found."

It is the composite sketches of the suspect in the Indianapolis and St. Charles shootings that provide the strongest evidence that the same man is responsible for the series of slayings, police said.

Although drawn by different police sketch-artists miles from each other, the pictures are eerily similar.

The only known major difference in the slayings is that McCown was the only male

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victim. That led the victim's mother, Sylvia McCown, to speculate Friday the gunman thought a woman was operating the ceramic shop because of the store's name — Sylvia's Ceramics.

"He may have thought there was a female there, too," Sylvia McCown said. The 40-year-old McCown often wore his hair in a ponytail.

Police think robbery may be the motive in the shootings. Nothing, except McCown's wallet, was miss-

ing from the ceramics store, but Newport theorized the killer was scared away by something before he could open the cash register drawer.

Authorities in three states plan to meet this weekend in Kansas City to exchange information and "compare notes," said Kris Turnbow, chief of police in Raytown.

Sylvia McCown said she was relieved after hearing police had a break in the case.

Murders / McCown 1-70

similar

Investigator: Kentucky killing

Ts MAY 14 1992

* Crime and Criminals (w) - Murders (McCown)

By Deborah D. Heldman
Tribune-Star Staff Reporter

A private investigator thinks the so-called "I-70 killer" may be responsible for the 1989 killing of a shoe store clerk in Shelbyville, Ky.

The investigator, Tina Francis, wants to talk to police in three states this week about the possible link.

Francis, who operates a private investigation service in Lexington, Ky., said the composite sketch of the man who killed two store clerks at a Wichita, Kan., bridal shop April 11 was "identical" to witness descriptions of the suspect in the

Shelbyville murder.

She saw the composite sketch of the suspect in the Wichita murders on an Indianapolis television newscast Tuesday night.

There are other similarities, she said, between the Shelbyville murder and the six murders linked to the I-70 killer.

"The victim here was working alone in a shoe store in a strip mall," said Francis, who is investigating the murder for the victim's family. "It was off an interstate highway."

Unlike the murders of store clerks in Indiana, Missouri and Kansas, the store clerk in Shelbyville was not shot in the back of the head. Instead, Francis said, she

was beaten over the head with the butt of a gun.

Shelbyville police detectives did not return telephone calls Wednesday afternoon.

Meanwhile, Terre Haute police detectives met Wednesday in Kansas City, Mo., with investigators from Indianapolis, Wichita, St. Charles, Mo., and Raytown, Mo., to compare notes about the shootings in their respective cities. They also met with FBI agents drafting a behavioral profile of the killer.

Investigators also hope to develop a better composite sketch of the suspect, based on descriptions given to police by witnesses to the St. Charles and Wichita

murders.

The meeting in Raytown will continue today.

Ballistics tests led authorities to conclude last week that the same .22-caliber handgun was used to kill store clerks in the five cities — including the April 27 murder of Sylvia Ceramic's store owner Michael McCown, 40, of Terre Haute.

McCown was the only man believed shot by the serial killer and detectives investigating the shooting speculated last week that the gunman mistook the victim for a woman because he wore a ponytail and an earring.

Cindy Smith, McCown's sister, told The

told The Tribune-Star on Wednesday that her family doesn't believe the theory.

She said her brother greeted every customer who came into the store — both the front and back door of the business had bells — and her brother's height and features would not have led the killer to have mistaken him for a woman, she said.

McCown was 6 feet 4 inches tall and lanky, Smith said, and his ponytail was only about two-inches long. The rest of his hair was short. The earring her brother wore was a tiny gold wire hoop.

Like police, Smith is anxiously awaiting word of the suspect's apprehension.

"I hope they get him," she said.

Community Affairs File

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